

# OSWESTRY & BORDER CHRONICLE

Thursday, September 1, 2011

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## Oswestry

Pair show they are a diamond couple

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## Forde

Family tells of tropical storm terror

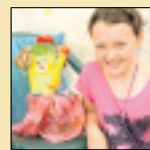
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## Pictures

Round-up of shows in your area

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## Call for a ban on building in village

A COUNCILLOR has called for a ban on future homes in West Felton amid fears its roads would not cope with an increase in traffic.

David Curtis, chairman of West Felton Parish Council, said he was speaking out to protect his community from being inundated with a possible influx of people in new homes with the area becoming bigger than a rural village.

About 100 homes are already earmarked to be phased in on a new estate near Tedsmore Road over the next 20 years.

Councillor Curtis said there were no problems with the proposed development but he feared for the future of the village if more developments came forward.

His comments came in response to a Shropshire Council consultation report focusing on the allocation of sites for new development.

He has called for the village to be by-passed from future development and is asking for a boundary around the community to stop homes being built.

Councillor Curtis said parish councillors had been asked to consider whether the area would become a hub or cluster with other areas and is adamant that parish councillors want it to stay as a rural village.

He said: "We want to be regarded as a rural village where no new building takes place. We feel we have had more than our fair share."

## Fraud is on the agenda

FRAUD WILL BE on the agenda when Oswestry Chamber of Commerce meets next Wednesday night.

Paul Wiseman, of Paul Wiseman Investigations, will talk on the prevention of business fraud at the September meeting at the Wynnstay Hotel.

His topic will be "If your company has a thief, what do you do next?"

Also speaking will be Peter Stokes who chairs the Shropshire Chamber of Commerce business meeting in Oswestry twice-monthly.

# £9K BARRIER TO CUT-PRICE HOMES

PEOPLE TRYING to cash in on the chance to buy cut price homes in Oswestry are hitting a £9,000 stumbling block.

There has been huge interest in the Shropshire Council initiative to provide affordable housing but the £9,000 deposit required is stopping prospective buyers getting onto the property ladder.

The council is giving buyers a helping hand by offering newly-built three-bedroom houses in Heritage Park for a vastly discounted price.

The houses are available for £27,948 under the council's "Discount Sale" scheme, allowing people to buy 100 per cent of a property, but at a substantial discount to the open market value.

The council said that two of the original four houses offered for sale had been sold but said two more were still available to help people buy their first property.

### Chance

A council officer on the communities and housing policy team said: "There had been a huge interest in the scheme with many people very keen to have the chance to get on the property ladder. But they still have to find the 10 per cent deposit, which is a real barrier to many."

Buyers need to meet certain criteria, such as being from the Oswestry area and being unable to afford a house on the open market. They need to be able to get a mortgage for the discounted price, but do not then need to pay rent on the remainder like in some other affordable home schemes.

"When it comes to selling the house on, it must be sold at the same proportion of discount and to a buyer who meets the same criteria."

Shropshire Council Cabinet member for housing, Councillor Malcolm Price, said: "This is a great opportunity for those looking to get on the property ladder, particularly people on the Home Point housing register or

by Graham Breeze

those who are priced out of the local housing market. Two properties have already sold and these are the only two currently left." Councillor for Oswestry East, Martin Bennett, said he wanted to see more initiatives like this in the future. For more details contact 01743 252429.

Meanwhile a run-down housing area in Oswestry is set to undergo a major development with Swan Lane tenants likely to be rehoused and the homes demolished.

Shropshire Council said there was now "low demand for homes" in Swan Lane.

And it said 48 of the 60 homes, including a large number of bedsits, were "no longer meeting the housing needs of the local community".

Housing chiefs are visiting all affected tenants to talk to them about the plan. The proposals will be considered for approval at a cabinet meeting on September 14.

Sue Adams, Shropshire Council's landlord services manager, said: "The overall cost of the project is not yet confirmed. We have applied to the Homes and Communities Agency for funding, and we cannot speculate on cost until we firm up our plans and know how much external funding we will receive."

"The proposal is to demolish the current properties and build new houses on the same site. Of the 48 properties that don't meet housing need, some are occupied and some are empty, but there is low demand for these properties, which is why they don't meet housing need."

## It's not just joints clicking at hospital...



Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital patient Paul Holloway using the internet.

Picture: Peter Flemmich

PATIENTS AND visitors to Oswestry's Orthopaedic Hospital are now logging on thanks to free WiFi access on wards and waiting areas.

An internet pilot project offering free WiFi at the Gobowen-based hospital proved to be a smash hit, allowing patients to keep in touch with relatives as well as while away the hours by browsing their favourite websites.

Bosses at the hospital, which last month won prestigious Foundation Trust status, said the free internet access would now be extended throughout the hospital as well as to visitors.

Hospital spokeswoman Katrina

Morphet said the move was another example of the trust using the latest technology to improve patient care and satisfaction.

She said: "Following a trial earlier this year, free internet access for patients and visitors is now available."

### Web browsing

"Free WiFi, mainly for email access and web browsing, is available for patients and visitors on the wards and in waiting areas."

"This makes it more convenient for people to continue with their normal lives when attending the hospital, either as an outpatient or when coming in for surgery."

"Additionally new patient infor-

mation films have been produced which are routinely given out as DVDs to the 2,600 patients undergoing hip and knee replacement every year.

"The new educational films explain what exercises people will need to do and safe ways of moving after they undergo a hip or a knee replacement."

Interim director of nursing Nicki Bellinger said: "We want to create an environment where patients feel comfortable and are as prepared as possible for their planned surgical procedure; this includes encouraging people to ask about what goes on during their stay with us and planning for their return home."

## Festival has the recipe for success

THIS WEEKEND'S two-day Welsh Food Festival at Berriew promises to be the best yet, with more producers than ever attending.

The sixth annual festival at Glanasevern Hall will be opened by TV celebrity chef Dudley Newbery on Saturday with two days of entertainment aimed at all age groups.

The TV chef will be giving a demonstration on Saturday, along with London-based corporate entertainment chef Jason Elvin.

Sunday demonstrations will be given by Sam Regan of The Royal Oak, Welshpool, Stephanie Bone of The Checkers, Montgomery, Keiko Simmchen of Gregynog Hall and Paula Anwyl of Glanasevern Hall.

Youngsters will have the chance to take part in a new adventure trail and those wanting to enjoy something special will be able to experience dining in the lakeside restaurant marquee.

Festival chairman Bernard Harris said: "The Welsh Food Festival includes more producers than ever. In addition to the producers' displays there are events and entertainment to suit all ages, from the ever popular lakeside restaurant and the free Festival Food demonstration marquee to a new nature trail for children."

Wine lovers will be able to learn more from expert Charlotte Bass from Tanners Wines.

The festival will be open from 10am until 5pm on Saturday and Sunday.

## BMX group is on track

A NEW BMX track opened at Kinnerley on Tuesday after parish councillors asked what facilities the villagers wanted.

The track was the brainchild of Kinnerley Trackers BMX Club, which is made up of youngsters aged between 11 to 16.

Parish clerk Kate Sanderson said: "The track has been designed to be challenging for experienced riders while at the same time offering a suitable introduction to younger children and older newcomers to the sport."

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# Family relives terror of tropical storm Irene

EXCLUSIVE  
by Graham Breeze

A FORDEN family living in the USA were forced underground to take shelter as tropical storm Irene caused havoc in Southern Maryland last weekend.

RAF Squadron Leader Neil Eccleshall was posted abroad just over a year ago on an attachment with the US Navy and along with wife Melanie and daughters Daisy and Carys was forced into a cellar to avoid the post tropical storm.

"Having lived in Mid-Wales and Scotland for 20 years, I thought I had seen most of the weather elements, but the last seven days living in Southern Maryland has proved me wrong," he said.

"Having grown accustomed to using our basement for playing darts and table tennis, it was only when we learned of the impending Hurricane Irene that we thought that we would probably have to use it for its intended purpose – a shelter."

With the eye of the storm due overhead at 2am on Sunday the family were subjected to torrential rain by 10am on Saturday, and with 50ft trees threatening to fall on the property headed for the basement.

"After a broken night's sleep without power we awoke to beautiful weather and blue skies but the devastation was evident everywhere," said the squadron leader.

## Uprooted

"Massive trees had been uprooted and smaller trees had brought down power lines. Many roads were closed in the county due to flooding."

Earlier in the week the family had experienced their first earthquake when the area was hit by shocks registering 5.9 on the Richter scale.

Without notice, the whole house began to shake, cupboards opened and our pet retriever Harley became a quivering wreck. Everyone in the workplace headed for the nearest exit," he said.

"Irene has left an indelible mark on our family and renewed our respect for mother-nature. Even Southern Marylanders were shocked at the destruction that was far worse than most imagined."

"The power was back on in our street after 14 hours and the street was a hive of activity clearing up the debris. Our daughters were delighted that school was closed until further notice."

Squadron Leader Eccleshall is a weapon systems officer in the RAF and is currently on an exchange tour with the United States Navy flying on the P-3 Orion aircraft as a Flight Trials Director. He is a former pupil of Welshpool High School and the son of Margaret Bywater of Forden.

Members of the touring Froncysyllte Male Voice Choir were among those stranded in America due to the chaos at the centre of the storm in New York. The choir members faced four and five day delays with flights cancelled.

## Invitation to art group

PEOPLE INTERESTED in art and drawing are invited to join an Oswestry group. A small and friendly group of people meet at The Cube, in Oswald Road, every Monday from 10am until noon. The group is for people to explore drawing and painting and is led by local artist and teacher Jod Gough. The course costs £40 per 10-week block. All abilities welcome.



Neil Eccleshall with wife Melanie and daughters Carys, 15, and Daisy, 17, with one of the damaged trees in their garden.

## Changes to buses spark protests

COUNCILLORS in Welshpool are up in arms at changes being made to the town's Powys County Council operated bus service.

Routes have been changed following the introduction of the new one-way system and buses now stop at the new Tesco store every half hour.

Welshpool Town Councillor Tony Harvey has written to Powys County Council voicing his concerns calling for changes to the route and to arrangements for stopping on both sides of High Street.

"The new timetable shows buses departing from both sides of High Street which is totally unacceptable," he said. "It means that more people, many of them elderly, have to cross an extremely busy road."

"For virtually every bus connection people have to cross the road."

Councillor Ann Holloway said she was 'appalled' at the changes to the timetable.

"This service now takes people away from the town centre and to Tesco every half hour" she said.

John Forsey, Powys Council's transport manager, has pointed out that the inclusion of a Tesco bus stop was part of the Section 106 agreement.

He has also offered to meet with town councillors, the coach operators and passengers to discuss the issues.

## Care home uncertainty

UNION OFFICIALS have claimed staff and residents at Southern Cross Care Home in Oswestry face an uncertain future because landlords had failed to meet a deadline to secure new operators to run the sites.

The Government asked landlords to appoint new operators by August 1.

But the GMB, which represents some of the staff at the county's care homes, said this deadline had not been met, leaving almost 200 residents and 292 staff at the centres in limbo.

## Step out for 'Seven Wonders'

THE "SEVEN WONDERS" of the Oswestry hills are to be celebrated with the chance to walk, or even run, across the seven nature reserves.

Oswestry has the largest concentration of nature reserves in Shropshire but few people know of the whereabouts of many of them. They include the most popular Llanymynech Rocks and other quarry areas like Dolgoch near Llynclys.

Limestone abounds at other reserves such as Llynclys Common, the woodland at Jones' Rough and Craig Sychtyn.

Sarah Gibson, of the Shropshire Wildlife

Trust, said the walk would give people a chance to explore the reserves and raise funds for the trust.

"This delightful ramble through the Oswestry Hills between Shropshire Wildlife Trust's nature reserves in the area takes place on September 18. There is a choice of three routes covering seven or 14 miles. Entrance fees are just £8 if booked and paid in advance or £10 on the day."

Walkers need to book in at Trefonen Village Hall between 8am and 10am for the 14 mile walk and between 8am and 11am for a choice of seven mile walks.



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**DUNDEE:** A break of up to around 2 hours can be taken at Dundee. The station is fairly handy for the main shopping areas as well as plenty of excellent pubs, bars, café's and restaurants. Dundee's most famous attraction is the research Ship 'Discovery', the very ship in which Captain Scott and Ernest Shackleton sailed to Antarctica.

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## NEWS

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## Store is a bit blue after it sees red..

SUPERMARKET bosses have spent more than £200,000 to change the colour of its roof after they were told it looked out of place.

For two years Morrisons in Station Road, Oswestry, has been red but in six weeks time it will become grey to ensure it is more in keeping with other buildings in the area.

Bosses have put up scaffolding to help install the new roof after being told they would have to change it when the supermarket opened.

This week chiefs said that instead of making the changes straight away they saved up cash to put in a top-of-the-range new roof, which will be environmentally friendly.

Frank Cromie, general manager at the store, said it was a big job and work would take six weeks to complete. "We have spent more than £210,000 on the roof."

Saffron Rainey, chairman of Oswestry Civic Society, said: "Morrisons' new roof will be more in keeping which is good, and it makes the building more effective that is a good thing."

## Crop of produce at annual show

LLANMYNECH gardeners will be putting their produce on display at their annual show on Saturday, September 10.

The show takes place in the village hall with 58 classes on offer organised by Llannymynech Gardeners Association with much of the produce being auctioned at the end of the event.

The association's annual meeting will take place on Tuesday, September 13.

## Summer fete

SUPPORTERS OF Fairholme in Morda Road, Oswestry are holding a summer fete tomorrow, Friday, from 2-4pm.

Proceeds raised will go to the home's comfort fund.

# Relatives pay anniversary tribute to Foster family

by Graham Breeze

**GRIEVING RELATIVES** laid flowers and released Chinese lanterns to mark the third anniversary of the deaths of the Foster family at Osbaston House in Maesbrook last Friday.

The tribute was paid by the family of failed businessman Christopher Foster, who killed his 15-year-old daughter Kirstie and his wife Jill at their family home near Oswestry before setting fire to the mansion and killing himself in 2008.

Friday was exactly three years to the day since the tragedy at the family's mansion and the tribute was the first time the relatives had gone on site with the specific intention of releasing lanterns.



Andrew Foster, his wife Pam and their daughters Katie and Pippa lay flowers.

There is still no timescale set for the demolition of the burned-out mansion where Christopher Foster's brother Andrew, his wife Pam, and their daughters Katie, 17, and Pippa, 10, took part in the tribute along with Kirstie's grandmother Enid.

The family lit and released a white lantern for Kirstie, a turquoise one for Jill, and a blue one for Christopher. This year would have been Kirstie's 18th birthday and the family also placed flowers over the area where her ashes were buried.

Andrew Foster said: "Every year we tend to put flowers at the church but we thought this year it would be fitting to do something more. We did this for Kirstie."

Mr Foster is now involved with the charity Riding for the Disabled and has created a cup which it presents in memory of horse-loving Kirstie.

## Demolition

Receivers appointed by the bank which owns the premises were later granted planning permission to demolish the remains of the house and build a new home on a different site in the grounds.

But developers GVA, which put in the application in July 2009, said it still had no dates of when it would carry out demolition and building plans.

A spokesman for the company said: "At present there is no timescale set for demolition of Osbaston House, implementation of the planning permission obtained in 2009, or sale of the site."

But the spokesman reassured: "Security patrols are continuing to take place on a regular basis."

Christopher Foster said the uncertainty was still upsetting for the family. "It is all covered by confidentiality. It is very upsetting."

Mr Foster revealed there were still looters coming into the area and a lot of people were going to the site.

He added: "They have taken the lead, stripped the kitchen, the copper piping and a hot tub has been pinched."

Councillor Roger Davies, from Kinnerley Parish Council, said he had not heard anything about the plans since the application was first made.

## Diamond pair's quiet celebration

SIXTY YEARS of marriage are being marked by an Oswestry couple today.

But diamond celebrations for Bob and Glenys Thomas, from Chaucer Close were tinged with sadness as they followed a week after the death of one of their two sons.

Mrs Thomas, 81, said their son David, who lived in Milton Keynes, had died at the age of 59, after suffering a long illness.

"We are not doing much at the moment, obviously. Just celebrating very quietly," she said.

## Foreman

They have one other son, Alan, one grandson and one great-grandson.

Mrs Thomas, then Glenys Eilledge from Maesbrook, married Bob Thomas, from Hengoed, at Maesbrook Methodist Church on September 1 1951.

She was 21 and he was 26.

They lived in Gobowen and then moved to Oswestry 21 years ago. Mr Thomas was a highways foreman for Shropshire County Council for 30 years, working in the Oswestry area.

During their time in Gobowen, Mrs Thomas helped out with the village's scout group and served on the scout committee.

Throughout his life, Mr Thomas has been a keen gardener, winning a number of cups in the Oswestry Council's annual gardening competitions.

Asked about their recipe for such a long and happy married life together, Mrs Thomas said: "We just get on very well together."

"We don't seem to fall out at all."



Bob and Glenys Thomas at home in Oswestry.



On their wedding day - Bob and Glenys Thomas.

## NEWS in brief

## Crews battle woods blaze

DOZENS OF firefighters spent more than seven hours tackling a blaze in woods at Montgomery on Saturday after a small bonfire spread out of control.

More than 9,000 square feet of land in Ganley Wood was affected by the fire at about 2.45pm on Saturday. No trees were lost during the blaze as the fire broke out in an area of scrubland where trees had recently been chopped down. No-one was injured during the incident.

Fire crews from Montgomery, Shrewsbury, Welshpool, Minsterley, Bulth Wells and Newtown attended the scene, and the fire was finally put out shortly after 10pm. In total 24 firefighters were involved.

A spokesman for Mid and West Wales Fire Service said no buildings were damaged in the blaze.

She said: "It was a controlled burn of an area of woodland which was being cut back, and included tree stumps and grass. Somehow the fire got out of control and spread, although no live trees were affected."

## Youngsters can win a bicycle

YOUNGSTERS ARE being given the chance to win a bicycle as part of cycle month in Welshpool.

Cycle month runs until September 14, when stage four of the main Tour of Britain Cycle Race starts from Powis Castle. To mark the event, Welshpool Town Council, in conjunction with Brooks Cycles, is running a win a bike competition.

Entry forms are available at Brooks Cycles Ltd, 9 Severn Street, or the town clerk on (01938) 553142.

## Football club's reunion dinner

LLANFAIR UNITED FC will hold a reunion dinner and dance next month.

The event will be on October 15 and all ex-players and friends are invited to join an evening of entertainment at Caereinion Leisure Centre.

Tickets cost £20 each. To buy tickets or for details call 07977 015852.

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Nick gets  
on his  
bike for  
hospice

A KEEN CYCLIST will be using pedal power to help raise cash for charity at a biking event.

It is the first time that Nick Clarke, from Gobowen, will be taking part in the Severn Hospice's Great Big Bike Ride which takes place on Sunday.

He has been training for a number of weeks in preparation for the 50km event after being challenged by a work colleague.

The annual event is organised by the charity and the Bicycle Hub, in Jackfield, Telford.

It offers those taking part a choice of either a 50km or 100km route which starts and finishes in Shawbury.

Mr Clarke said he had enjoyed cycling since he was young and it has been a passion of his for the past 25 years.

"Severn Hospice is a worthwhile cause because I know the charity is funded by the public," he added.

"I would encourage others to do their bit for the local community by raising much needed cash for a local charity which you, or someone close to you, could benefit from at any time."

Sarah Hawthorne, fundraising events officer for Severn Hospice, said: "The Great Big Bike Ride is always popular. If you would like to join us on Sunday you can register at www.severnospice.org.uk or call us on (01743) 354450."

Registration for the 50km route costs £12.50.

Vandals blamed for  
grave digger's error

by Graham Breeze

A GRAVE digger at Llanymynech's vandalism hit burial ground dug up the wrong plot after jobs moved marker pegs, it was revealed yesterday.

A member of the burial ground committee spotted the mistake, but it was too late and the plot had already been dug up.

The ground which was dug up was for a fresh burial and did not contain a coffin but the incident, which happened earlier this summer, has sparked concern in the village.

Terry Ingram, clerk of Llanymynech and Pant Parish Council burial committee, said nothing like it had happened before and the confusion caused extra work and a bill for £150 to deal with the error.

He said: "I went to the grounds in the morning and the lad digging the grave had already started work and it was the wrong plot. He had dug six foot and had just finished when I arrived. We had to pay for the wrong grave that had been dug to be filled."

No funerals were delayed by the incident. Councillor Dilys Gaskill, chairman of the parish council, said: "The burial ground incident was distressing."

"What those causing anti-social behaviour did had a knock-on effect. It was all sorted out in the end but it is not something we have come across before."

Other incidents of anti-social behaviour have also been reported in the grounds including flowers being thrown around, and empty alcohol cans discarded.

Councillor Gaskill said: "It is a lovely burial ground and people take a great pride in putting flowers there. It was very upsetting for them."

Police constable Pete Dale said other areas of the village had also experienced anti-social behaviour in the summer.

Richard Ewels, a spokesman for West Mercia Police, said: "If anybody has any information at all concerning any of the incidents or about antisocial behaviour they should contact the police on 0300 3333000."

## Messy problem for warden

WELSHPOOL COULD bring in a warden to hand out fines for dog fouling and littering, it has been revealed.

The town could soon have a warden similar to those used in Shrewsbury under plans to enforce laws and cut down on mess in the town. Robert Robinson, town clerk, said it could be something the town would look at in future.



## 'Uplifting' charity event

OVER £1,500 was raised to 'support' the Marie Curie Cancer Care fund on Saturday as Welshpool firemen and fundraisers joined to stretch a string of bras from the fire station to Mount Street.

Ladies of the town donated 650 items of underwear and the firefighters stretched the garments all the way to the Green Dragon from their Severn Road headquarters.

"It was a fantastic effort," said fire-

fighter Russell Pugh. "We set ourselves a target of reaching The Cross but the bras just kept coming and the girls, led by Kaye Derwas, really produced the goods."

The crew collected £1,000 with another £548 coming in donations.

The Welshpool crew are pictured with fundraisers, Councillor Barry Thomas, chairman of Powys County Council, Glyn Davies, MP for Montgomeryshire and Councillor Ann Holloway before the event.

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## MOTHER CANNOT MANAGE HER AFFAIRS OR SIGN CHEQUES FOR BILLS

**Q:** My elderly mother has been diagnosed with Alzheimer's Disease and has recently been admitted into a local Care Home. Her condition has progressed to the stage where she can no longer sign cheques so I went to the bank to see what I should do. They said they required a Power of Attorney before they would give me any information. I am worried because my mother owns a house and I cannot pay any bills in relation to this without access to her account. Should I ask a solicitor to prepare a Power of Attorney for my mother?

**A:** If your mother lacks the capacity to handle her financial affairs then it would not be possible for her to give instructions to prepare a Power of Attorney. The only other recourse (in light of the information above) is to seek to be appointed as your mother's "Deputy". A deputy is someone authorised by the Court of Protection to handle a patient's financial affairs.

The application to the Court is time-consuming and requires a great deal of information in support, namely a statement of your mother's financial affairs, a medical certificate confirming her incapacity and various supporting declarations. Applications to the Court of Protection are also notoriously slow, often taking 16-21 weeks or even longer. Therefore the sooner an application is made, the sooner your mother's affairs can be put back on track.

There are also a number of time-consuming and onerous duties associated with the ongoing management of a patient's financial affairs, which require the Deputy to keep clear accounting records for annual submission to the Court. I would strongly advise you to seek the advice of a solicitor who is experienced in dealing with these types of application, who will understand the costs, timescales and practical ways which, in the interim, your mother's affairs could be managed.

Further information relating to this question is available from Victoria Wilson, a Senior Solicitor with GHP Legal who specialises in Wills, Probate and Tax Planning.

For information relating to any other legal matter please call GHP Legal on 01691 659194.

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# Campaign begins for 'vital' cashpoint as bank closes

by Graham Breeze

A POLITICIAN has given up his campaign to keep Llanrhaeadr's only bank open but is fighting for the installation of a cashpoint machine.

Liberal Democrat AM William Powell has been fighting to save banking services in Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant following HSBC's decision to close.

He recently met with Laura Brown, regional service manager at HSBC, as well as the local county councillor Aled Davies and representatives from the community council to be told that the bank was to close.

"I was very disappointed to be told at this meeting that HSBC were determined to close down the branch," said Mr Powell. "The HSBC representative told me that the decision had been made because the Llanrhaeadr branch is one of the lowest performing branches in the whole of the UK."

"I was even more disappointed to be told that there was no form of community impact assessment carried out, and that all such decisions are made on a purely commercial basis. This seems to me to be very much at odds with HSBC's own marketing slogan 'The World's Local Bank'."

"Banking services in small rural communities are absolutely vital to their local economies. UK banks need to develop a policy specific to rural areas, rather than just adopting a 'one size fits all' approach. In the coming months I shall be spearheading a campaign on this issue across the region."

"HSBC have said that they are committed to maintaining a cashpoint in the village and I have been in regular communication with them throughout August to ensure that they meet this commitment," he added.

"I think that the ideal solution from the perspective of the local community would surely be a stand-alone cashpoint that could be used 24-7. However, HSBC have concerns about this on the grounds of cost and security."

HSBC is believed to be negotiating to try to install a cashpoint inside an existing business premises.

## Chance to learn Flamenco

AN OSWESTRY venue will host Flamenco dance classes next month, led by Fiona Roberts, 51, from Selattyn.

The classes will kick off on September 29 in the Dunbabin Gallery, Willow Street from 7pm until 8pm. Classes cost £5 per session.

For more information call 07834599698.



Rescued - Jake with his owners Steffan Williams and Katie Spence and the firefighters who freed him, Tim Davidson, James Lewis and Ian Ramshaw.



Jake with his owner Katie.

## Firefighters save Jake

A CHEEKY Jack Russell is in the doghouse after giving his owners and a team of firefighters the runaround.

Ten-month-old Jake went missing on Wednesday, leaving his owners Katie Spence and Steffan Williams frantic with worry.

The couple eventually found him 24 hours later - stuck down a rabbit hole in Weston Rhyn near Oswestry.

Oswestry firefighters were called to the rescue and after a bit of an effort managed to drag the dog out.

Katie, 24, and 22-year-old Steffan, from Llangollen, have now promised to keep a closer eye on their pet.

They had taken him round to Mr Williams's mother's house in Weston Rhyn

to play with the other dogs outside. When it was time for the dogs to go back in the house Jake was nowhere to be seen. Miss Spence said: "We searched for him all night. We searched all around the valley and the woods and we were really worried."

When it got dark they had to give up and went back to Mr Williams's mother's home.

The next day Miss Spence said she heard a barking from a nearby rabbit hole. They were worried the hole may collapse so called on the expert skills of the Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service.

Jake was about a metre down the tunnel and the firefighters had to start digging a hole to get access to him.

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| 59 FORD KA 1.2 Zetec 3dr, Red, air con, alloys, PAS, ABS, 8,000 miles.....                                                                | SOLD  | 07 FORD MONDEO 1.8 Edge Estate, Silver, air con, alloys, PAS, ABS, service history, 26,000 miles.....SOLD                      |
| 59 KIA RIO 1.4 Strike 5dr, Met Blue, air con, alloys, PAS, ABS, 15,000 miles.....                                                         | £5995 | 07 BMW 318 D ES 4dr, Met Blue, leather, air con, alloys, PAS, ABS, FSH, 50,000 miles.....SOLD                                  |
| 09 VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 1.8 S 5-dr, Black, air con, PAS, ABS, service history, 31,000 miles.....                                             | £3495 | 07 MINI COOPER S Convertible, Met Blue, leather, climate control, alloys, PAS, ABS, service history, 31,000 miles.....£3495    |
| 09 PEUGEOT 308 1.6 HDi (110) Sport 5dr, Silver, air con, alloys, PAS, ABS, FSH, 26,000 miles.....                                         | £3695 | 07 RENAULT MEGANE 1.5 DCi Extreme 5dr, Black, air con, alloys, PAS, ABS, service history, 25,000 miles.....SOLD                |
| 58 RENAULT MEGANE 1.6 DYNAMIQUE COUPE (NEW) 3-dr, Metallic Orange, air con, alloys, PAS, ABS, alloys, service history, 40,000 miles.....  | £7995 | 07 VAUXHALL VECTRA 1.9 CDTi Life 5dr, Black, air con, PAS, ABS, FSH, 44,000 miles.....SOLD                                     |
| 58 CITROEN C3 1.4 HDi Rhythm 5dr, Silver, air con, PAS, ABS, FSH, 18,000 miles.....                                                       | SOLD  | 07 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.4 Club Estate, White, air con, PAS, ABS, service history, 50,000 miles.....£4595                           |
| 58 FORD FOCUS 1.8 TDCi Style 5dr, Met Red, air con, PAS, ABS, service history, 51,000 miles.....                                          | £6995 | 56 PEUGEOT 307 1.6 S 5-dr, Metallic Red, air con, alloys, PAS, ABS, service history, 28,000 miles.....£4995                    |
| 58 VOLVO C30 1.6 R Design Sport 3dr, Met Blue, half leather, climate control, cruise control, PAS, ABS, FSH, 16,000 miles.....            | £3495 | 56 FORD MONDEO 1.8 Edge 5dr, Met Blue, air con, alloys, PAS, ABS, FSH, 22,000 miles.....SOLD                                   |
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| 58 VW GOLF 1.9 TDI Estate, Silver, air con, PAS, ABS, FSH, 53,000 mile.....                                                               | £3595 | 56 RENAULT MEGANE 2.0 T Sport (225) 5dr, Black, leather, climate control, cruise control, PAS, ABS, FSH, 37,000 miles.....SOLD |
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| 08 MAZDA 3 1.6 TS 5-dr, Metallic Blue, air con, alloys, PAS, ABS, FSH, 33,000 miles.....                                                  | £5595 | 06 CITROEN PICASSO 1.6 Exclusive 5dr, Met Red, alloys, climate control, PAS, ABS, FSH, 28,000 miles.....SOLD                   |
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| 08 VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.9 CDTi Auto Exclusiv Met Blue, air con, PAS, ABS, FSH, 14,000 miles.....                                             | £3895 | 06 VW GOLF 2.0 T GTI 3dr, Red, 1 owner, climate control, alloys, PAS, ABS, service history, 58,000 miles.....SOLD              |
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| 08 FORD FIESTA 1.25 Zetec Blue 5dr, Met Blue, air con, alloys, PAS, ABS, FSH, 29,000 miles.....                                           | SOLD  | 55 ALFA ROMEO 159 JTDm Turismo 4dr, Red, climate control, alloys, PAS, ABS, service history, 49,000 miles.....£6295            |
| 08 RENAULT GRAND MODUS 1.2 Dynamique, Met Blue, air con, alloys, PAS, ABS, FSH, 22,000 miles.....                                         | £5295 | 55 FORD C MAX 1.6 LX 5dr, Met Red, air con, PAS, ABS, service history, 36,000 miles.....SOLD                                   |
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| 08 VAUXHALL VECTRA 1.8 SRI 5dr, Met Blue, air con, alloys, PAS, ABS, service history, 43,000 miles.....                                   | £5695 | 54 FORD FOCUS 1.6 Edge 3dr, Red, 2 owners, air con, alloys, PAS, ABS, service history, 45,000 miles.....£3495                  |
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| 57 VW FOX 1.2 3dr, Met Grey, PAS, ABS, service history, 30,000 miles.....                                                                 | SOLD  | 53 VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.9 DTi Design 5dr, Silver, 2 owners, air con, PAS, ABS, 47,000 miles.....£4395                             |
| 57 VOLVO S40 1.6 S 4dr, Black, air con, alloys, PAS, ABS, service history, 7,000 miles.....                                               | SOLD  | 53 CITROEN PICASSO 1.6 Desire 2, White, 1 owner, air con, PAS, ABS, FSH, 18,000 miles.....SOLD                                 |
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## NEWS

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## Attacker blames GHB drug

A MAN WHO sexually assaulted a teenager in a park did so because he was under the influence of the drug GHB, Shrewsbury Crown Court has been told.

Carl Ellis, 20, from Oerley Way, Oswestry, had been addicted to the drug for two years, Judge Michael Dudley heard.

He refused to pass sentence on Ellis, saying he wanted to hear from the probation service on why it thought it not necessary to impose a sexual offences rehabilitation order.

Ellis had admitted at an earlier hearing to sexually assaulting a girl on August 25 last year.

The case was adjourned to a future date with Ellis being told by the judge he would not be going to prison.

Mr Robert Edwards, prosecuting, said Ellis went up to the girl in a park in Oswestry and asked for a hug. He then tried to kiss her and then sexually assaulted the teenager, who had to use all her strength to fend him off.

Miss Debra White for Ellis, said the defendant would not have acted as he did if he had not been under the influence of GHB.

## Quiz held in aid of cancer fund

A QUIZ IN aid of Macmillan Cancer Support takes place at The Pedigree in Oswestry on Wednesday, September 7.

Teams of four should book, at a cost of £10, by contacting Haydn Jones on 01691 658414. Haydn is also running the Lake Vyrnwy Half Marathon on September 11 for the charity.

# Superb results spark calls for school to be left alone

**COUNCIL CHIEFS** proposing a major shake-up of schools in Powys were this week warned to leave Llanfyllin High School as it is.

Councillors in Llanfyllin say the latest "fantastic" A-level and GCSE results at the town's high school prove it should be left to carry on as it is.

But Powys Council bosses have again stressed that the "status quo is not sustainable".

### Reorganisation

They warned a reorganisation of secondary schools in the county is vital.

Llanfyllin High School last week revealed 86 per cent of pupils gained five or more A\* to C grades in their GCSEs.

The top results followed success at A-level this year in which 89.1 per cent of entries attained the top A\* to C grades this year with 66 per cent of grades at A\* to B.

The strong results come as council chiefs are considering a major shake-up of schools in Powys which could see Welsh medium education moved from Llanfyllin High School to Llanfair Caereinion High School.

Fears have also been expressed that Llanfyllin High School's sixth form could be lost in the changes.

Llanfyllin town councillor John Brautigam said the results proved the high

by Graham Breeze

school was successful and should be left alone.

He said: "It really is a case of 'if it ain't broke, don't try to fix it'."

"We firmly believe Llanfyllin High School can be successful as a separate financial entity."

Fellow town councillor and secretary of the Friends of Llanfyllin High School, Councillor Diana Dunn, said: "The results show what a great school it is and part of that is because of the fantastic sixth form."

"The worry is the sixth form could be lost in these changes. We believe the high school should be allowed to carry on being successful and delivering the education it does."

Powys County Council spokesman John Evans said changes had to be made to the secondary education system.

### Achievements

He said: "We also celebrate the fantastic exam achievements of our schools."

"But we face challenges for the future in the county including falling school rolls and financial constraints."

"The secondary school modernisation programme is vital. It is clear the status quo is not sustainable."

"We are analysing the views given during the recent consultation process and will be coming back with how we progress this in the autumn."

## Centre gets boost from bike ride



Linda Elliott, from the Oswestry branch of Sainsbury's, has raised more than £500 for charity. The money has been given to The Movement Centre, which is based at the town's orthopaedic hospital. The Movement Centre, which helps children who suffer from problems of movement control, has been chosen as the supermarket's charity of the year. Linda completed a 52-mile bike ride from London to Southend in order to raise the funds. Pictured with Linda Elliott are Meryl Jones and Sarah Bew from The Movement Centre.

Picture: Rose Pearce

## NEWS

in brief

### Rotary club is bang on target

AS A follow up to their talk on King Edward III and the Battle Of Crecy "Kyniges Souldiers" set up their target and gave the members of Oswestry Borderland Rotary Club the opportunity to watch a demonstration of longbow archery and have a go themselves.

From the time of King Edward III every man and boy from the age of seven was expected to practice archery to build their skills to the level required for the battlefield.

The evening was enjoyed by all, with some members even managing to hit the target!

Rotarian Sherie Soper and her husband Justin were thanked by past president Alan Poole and the evening was rounded off with a meal at the Sweeney Hall Hotel.

### Chemist's rota

Pharmacy @ Caxton, Oswald Road, Monday to Friday 8.30am to 6.00pm, Saturday 8.30am to 12 noon.

Church Street Pharmacy, 23 Church Street, Monday to Friday 9am to 5.30pm, Saturday 9am to 12pm, Sunday: Closed.

Boots The Chemist, 5-7 Church Street, Monday to Saturday 9am to 5.30pm, Sunday 10am to 4pm.

Station Pharmacy, The Old Station Building, Monday to Thursday 8am to 10pm, Friday 8am to 8.30pm, Saturday 9am to Midnight, Sunday Midnight to 4.30pm.

Gobowen Pharmacy, The Former Ticket Office, Gobowen, Monday to Friday 9am to 6pm (closed 1pm to 2pm), Saturday 9am to 1pm.

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## Council's delight at clerk's job applicants

VILLAGE OFFICIALS believe things are looking positive after receiving a flood of applicants to fill the role of parish clerk currently temporarily filled by a councillor.

Members of West Felton Parish Council have been advertising the role after the clerk left earlier this year.

In the past 12 months the parish council has seen a number of clerks stand down from the role.

In January, Councillor Edward Nicholas took on the role as temporary clerk assisted by a consultant.

The council felt it was able to begin advertising for the post as it had progressed well in the last six months.

But when they first started looking this summer, councillors were left disappointed after receiving only three applicants.

The closing date has now passed and Councillor David Curtis, chairman of the parish council, said he had received 13 applications from a wide area, including Telford.

A sub-committee has been formed for councillors to look through applications and it will meet tomorrow.

## Town hall fair

A MIND, body and spirit fair is to be held in Welshpool Town Hall's Assembly Room from 10am to 4pm on September 10.

Admission is £1.50 for adults or £1 for concessions or Cauldron Card holders.

A spokesman said: "This year's Welshpool Mind Body Spirit fair is promising to be a great day out."



Crowds enjoying the entertainment at Llanfechain Show, left, and a fire display by Fusewire (Jenna Brooks) one of the members of the Shrewsbury Cast Club, right.



# Fun, fun, fun as visitors flock to shows in the area

Report: Graham Breeze  
Pictures: Ian Sheppard and Rose Pearce

**FUN-PACKED events at Llanfechain, Llansilin and Ellesmere helped entertain visitors over the Bank holiday weekend on the Powys/Shropshire border.**

Entertainment at Monday's Llanfechain Show included Appalachian Dancers, art and circus workshops, classic vehicles, a jester and magician and model cars. There was also live music by Brian Stone and Percussion Unlimited and a children's sports.

This year's show president Gwynne Owen, who has lived in Llanfechain for nearly 40 years, said: "Llanfechain Show is unique in its central village setting and the involvement of the whole village in such a spectacular event."

This year the show also ran a project called "Local and Affordable Food Across the Generations" with cookery demonstrations and workshops



Some of the floral displays at Llansilin Show.

throughout the day as well as "share a recipe wall" for people's favourite dishes.

June Row, secretary of the show, said: "The show went well. The show was bigger and better than before. We had a lot of craft stalls and had to have an extra tent for them."

The village of Llansilin continued to preserve the traditional country way of life when it held its 30th annual show with activities for all ages.

Michael Taylor, chairman of the show, said: "The sheep dog trials started at 8am on Monday and were running all day. There were a lot of dogs and the trials ran until the end of the day."

The Horse Show which included a

full day of showing and jumping classes as well as a mounted fancy dress competition and a Companion Dog Show included some fun classes.

In the afternoon the village hall opened for people to see the results of the judging of the various produce competitions, vegetables and fruit and flowers as well as arts and crafts.

Ellesmere's annual carnival attracted thousands when it took to the streets on Saturday when top attractions included stunt displays, processions of floats and an appearance from children's tv favourite Peppa Pig.

There were also fairground rides, a fun day in the town's Cremorne Gardens and two processions of floats – one at lunchtime and the other just after dark.

Carnival organisers said they were delighted with how this year's event went and said even the occasional rain shower failed to dampen spirits.

Pearl Allum, chairman of the organising committee, said: "It was absolutely wonderful and I think it was one of the best yet. We had no trouble and it was an amazing day – everything ran like clockwork. The floats looked great and Peppa Pig was on one of them, which the children seemed to love."



Angharad Jones, nine, with her entry in the best dressed watering can competition at Llansilin Show.



Ship ahoy! Amanda Bate, Linda Faulkner and Karen Appleyard at Ellesmere Carnival.



Ruth Evans, from Oswestry, winner of the overall cookery award at the Llansilin Show.



Richard Hankinson, from Llanfechain, with his 1938 Francis Barnett motorcycle at Llanfechain Show.

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## COMMENT

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# A poignant time for residents

IT'S GREAT news for some residents in the Swan Lane area of Oswestry that they are to get new homes - but not for all.

The run-down area could undergo a major redevelopment it has been announced and plans will be discussed by Shropshire Council soon.

Tenants of Swan Lane would be re-housed as part of the proposals to transform the area and many have already been offered cash incentives and the promise of relocation.

Shropshire Council said there was now low demand for homes in Swan Lane and 48 of the 60 homes, including a large number of bedsits, were no longer meeting the housing needs of the local community.

If the redevelopment goes ahead residents would be offered a choice of accommodation through the Homepoint Choice Base Lettings Scheme or the opportunity to seek a private tenancy.

I'm sure the majority will snap up the chance to move out and bank a substantial lump sum but there are others who have lived in Swan Lane for most of their lives and for them this will be a particularly poignant time.

Let's hope Shropshire Council show them the respect they deserve when it comes time to find them a new home.

YOUNGSTERS in Kinnerley got their wheels on a new BMX track this week after the parish council asked villagers what facilities they wanted.

How refreshing that young people aged between 11 and 16 got their act together to tell their locally elected councillors what they wanted and indeed helped raise the finance to get the track built.

Doesn't that restore your faith in the youth of today. They're not all as bad as we are sometimes led to believe.

AS MORE and more things continue to emerge I can't help feeling that Welshpool has sold its soul to the tremendously powerful Tesco supermarket chain.

This week we learn that town bus routes have all been changed and guess who benefits the most. Buses will now stop at Tesco every half hour and it emerges the deal was struck under the terms of the 106 development agreement.

## BREEZE ABOUT TOWN

with Graham Breeze



Well I didn't know about that, you probably didn't know about it and it seems now that senior town councillors were also unaware.

I'm sure we will be told that the information was readily available to us all had we chosen to go looking. Sometimes we are all guilty of letting others get on with looking after our affairs and the lessons are learned when it's too late to do anything about them.

Councillors Tony Harvey and Ann Holloway have both voiced concerns to Powys Council about the changes and about safety issues involved with the elderly now having to cross the main road in High Street.

THERE WAS some interesting reading in Welshpool Town Council's monthly newsletter which said that work on the new shopping development alongside Tesco had begun. Well I've been for a look - there's nothing happening.

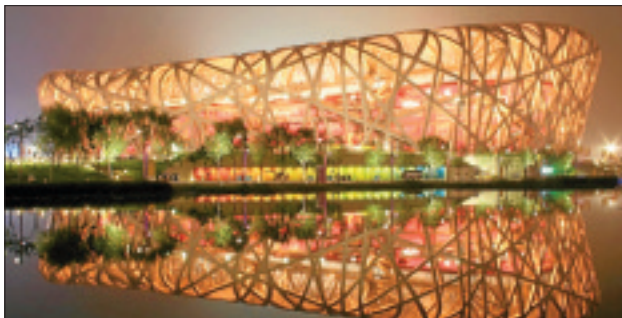
Meanwhile just across the road there's also nothing happening with the construction of the new pub.

Planning hurdles have put a stop to progress I'm told and if the hurdles aren't soon removed it could all be too late.

AND NOW for the apology! Many of you were quick to point out that I had my streets mixed up in last week's rant about Welshpool's one-way system.

When I referred to Berriest Street I of course really meant Church Street. You would think I would know better by now.

# Getting a bird's eye view of 2012 games



Impressive - the famous Bird's Nest stadium in Beijing

by Thom Kennedy

## PROFILE



**ONE OF the abiding memories of the last Olympic games was the famous Bird's Nest stadium.**

Indeed, spectacular as London's new Olympic stadia may be, they will still struggle to match the architectural intricacy and intrigue of the Beijing buildings.

But it's fair to say that despite the Bird's Nest name, London's new Olympic village will be a whole lot more accommodating to the avian community than it's Chinese predecessor.

And that's testament to the work of an Oswestry firm which has been slowly but surely filling the Olympic buildings with birds' nests and bat boxes after winning a series of contracts to supply the prestigious buildings.

### Nesting

Wildlifeshop.co.uk, based in Nesscliffe, recently received an order to supply nests and bat boxes for the new 2012 Olympic Stadium.

The boxes, designed specifically for swifts, black redstarts and house sparrows, will be sited on the stadium along with special woodcrete bat boxes.

This most recent order for the family-run supplier is the latest in many orders for the Olympic project, with hundreds of nesting boxes already being used on the scheme.

Managing director Tristram Pearce said: "It is pleasing to see that the environment has played such a big part in the design and appearance of the Olympic Village and other venues and that so many species are to benefit as a

result of the regeneration of London as the games now soon approach.

"It will be nice to think our boxes will be seen on the fantastic new stadium by so many people next summer.

"We have been providing boxes to the Olympic project for three years now, and have received orders totaling £15,000."

The London 2012 Olympic Stadium is the most sustainable ever built, and the contributions from Nesscliffe nestle into a building designed with the local environment in mind.

With steel a resource in short supply, the build was made 75 per cent lighter in terms of steel use than other stadiums, and features a low-carbon concrete, made from industrial waste and containing 40 per cent less carbon than usual.

The top ring of the stadium was built using surplus gas pipes, fitting into the build's policy of reusing and recycling materials.

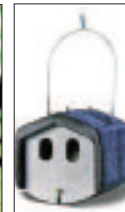
The Olympic Stadium will host the Athletics and Paralympic Athletics events at the London 2012 Games, as well as the opening and closing ceremonies, and will have a capacity of 80,000 before being handed over for conversion to a football stadium for East End club West Ham United.

It is a prestigious project, and adds to a growing order book for Wildlifeshop, a family-run retailer of wildlife related products, and the sister company of ecological consultancy Pearce Environment Ltd.

The firm provides ecological advice to clients across the UK including architects, developers, planning consultants, construction companies, agriculture, utility, road and rail contractors.

It assists with protected species and habitat surveying, licensing and mitigation, mostly for planning applications.

Mr Pearce added: "We sell via the website to domestic and business customers all over the UK and abroad, but we specialise in the large orders for construction and building companies,



Above: Some of the boxes supplied by Wildlifeshop.co.uk

as biodiversity and creating habitats for wildlife is a bigger part of development schemes. These days, it has been assisting the growth of the company.

"Our main range of wildlife boxes are made from wood-concrete or 'woodcrete' these nest boxes have proved to be a remarkable success, as well as being very durable and environmentally friendly. The designs vary and are specially created for their intended inhabitants as nest box designs mirror natural holes, the boxes are simple to install, inspect and clean."

Mr Pearce was born in the county and brought up on his family's livestock farm, also in Shropshire, and worked with animals regularly from an early age.

### Injured

In the 1980s his parents, founders of the Shropshire Badger Group, started a wildlife rehabilitation unit on their farm for the RSPCA inspectors and vets from a large area, who would place injured and sick animals and birds in their care meaning Mr Pearce and his sister Pamela were brought up surrounded by wild birds and animals, including badgers, foxes, polecats, stoats, weasels, voles, birds of prey and various breeds of owl.

Today as an ecologist Mr Pearce is actively involved in services such as protected species surveying, monitoring, conservation and mitigation.

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## LETTERS &amp; NEWS

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## Mayor launches challenge to young

YOUNGSTERS IN Welshpool are being encouraged to take part in a challenge launched by the town's mayor.

Councillor Estelle Bleivas said the challenge, which involved a number of activities, was for young people aged between six and 11 years and could be completed with friends, at home, at school or with an organisation such as a youth club, scouts or guides.

To compete youngsters will need to register with the town clerk's office. They will be sent a copy of the record of achievement that they will need to complete.

Robert Robinson, town clerk, said: "The challenge is to complete some of the activities that will be given out when people register, which include taking part in a tour of the town hall, cooking a simple meal for your family at home, swimming one Olympic pool length in a swimming pool and much more."

The challenge can be completed by any young person who lives within the Welshpool Town Council boundary or attends a school within Welshpool.

The record of achievement should be signed off by a responsible adult and if people need help they can call the town clerk's office or see an adult.

To find out more about the initiative call the town clerk's office on (01938) 553142, or write to the town council at Triangle House, Union Street SY21 7PB.

## Merger will save shows

TWO OF Welshpool's biggest events will be merged next year in a bid to ensure more people enjoy them.

The town council has voted to combine the town's air show and transport festival next year, after a disappointing air show.

Attendance at the 2010 event was between 3,500 and 5,000 people, which dropped this year to 1,000 after 40mm of rain fell during the day.

Councillors agreed to the merger, which proposes charging adults £5, children £2, and £3 for senior citizens and disabled people.

They said they hoped the combined event, which will be held in June, would grow year on year.

## Charlie in national team

AN OSWESTRY schoolboy has been flying the flag for his grandfather's native country of Scotland this week when he took part in Sainsbury's UK School Games, a multi-sport event for the UK's elite young athletes of school age.

Charlie Fryer-Stevens, 15, who is a pupil at Oswestry School, has been chosen to represent the Scottish national team during the tournament being staged in Sheffield between September 1-4.

Charlie was diagnosed with degenerative disc disease and the onset of osteoarthritis in 2008 when he was already a very keen sportsman, especially rugby and cycling.

As his condition worsened he had to give up cycling but took up wheelchair basketball and has risen quickly up the ranks of

the sport for his age level. "This will be the first time I will have played at this level and I am greatly looking forward to it," said Charlie.

"I have already trained with Team GB wheelchair basketball but this is the first time I will have played competitively at this level. I will be too young for the 2012 Olympics but am very much hoping to make Team GB for the 2016 games.

"I owe a huge amount of thanks to Oswestry School and especially director of sport Darren Hollingsworth who has really helped me believe I can do this at a very high level."

Mr Hollingsworth said the school was very proud of what Charlie has achieved and was wishing him well for the competition.



Charlie Fryer-Stevens



"THE Buxton defence is in total disarray with the keeper using his fingernails to save a goal."

So said the caption of the photographer (Mac Ozanne) who covered this encounter between Oswestry Town and Buxton played on Saturday, February 4, 1984, at the Victoria Road ground.

A crowd of 129 saw honours shared with a 3-3 draw.

## It could be the end of the age coming

ON TUESDAY people living in eastern USA were frightened when an earthquake measuring 5.9 on the richter scale shook the area.

Another stronger quake happened a few days earlier in the eastern Pacific ocean.

This year saw the catastrophic damage of the Japanese earthquake following on from Haiti, Pakistan and China. What in the world is happening?

Records show that severe earthquakes of 7 magnitude are occurring with increasing intensity and frequency.

They are increasing dramatically, in 10 years to 1996 there were 15 in the next 10 up to 2007 there were 99.

Jesus in Matthew 24 foretold that before the end of the age earthquakes and famines would increase just as the pains of a woman giving birth increase.

These are signs which herald the promised return of Jesus Christ whom God has appointed to judge the earth with righteousness and equity.

Get ready the owner's son is coming soon.

RON JONES  
St Martins

## LETTERS to the Editor

## POST

Readers' Letters,  
Oswestry Chronicle,  
Ketley, Telford TF1 5HU

## FAX

01952  
222451

## E-MAIL

letters@oswestry  
chronicle.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number of the writer. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters

## Do they have the right to tell us?

I AM writing to you about people's right to work. There are many people across the country being made redundant and yet the government is telling us all to find work.

Where are all the jobs and why is it that David Cameron tries to force disabled people to work when they have a health condition? How is a blind person going to find a job? The question is they can't see that is why they have a guide dog. The same goes for a person in a wheelchair. If they can't walk, how are they supposed to get a job?

The government think they have a right to tell the middle and lower class people what to do, but we are not allowed to tell them what to do. Wake up and smell the coffee, this is not the 1940s, it is 2011.

JANE PARRY  
Oswestry

## Record crowds flock to Berriew

HUNDREDS OF people flocked to Berriew to enjoy a "fantastic" country show on Saturday.

The 63rd annual show had a record number of trade stands and enjoyed an increase on gate receipts from last year.

The crowds packed on to Upper Rectory Field in the village on Saturday despite a number of showers. And it was a high point for show secretary Elaine Williams, who is standing down from her role after 19 years.

Mrs Williams said about 2,500 people were believed to have visited the show and the craft marquee was packed with "wonderful" entries.

The event was officially opened by show president Glyn James, who has farmed in Berriew all his life and has had connections with the show since he was a boy.

Miss Berriew Show Melissa Hart and her attendants travelled to the show field on a trailer decorated by Andrew Logan, who was also celebrating 20 years of the Andrew Logan Museum of Sculpture in the village over the weekend.

Mrs Williams said: "The crowds came in despite the weather and our gate receipts were up on last year."

"I have loved every minute of my job but it is time for someone with new ideas to come in."

A new secretary will be selected in November, and anyone interested in the post can call Mrs Williams on (01686) 640478.

## Batty about seeing bats

FAMILIES ARE being invited to see the creatures of the dark for themselves on the Shropshire/Mid Wales border.

Youngsters will have a chance to look for bats and moths and listen out for owls during the twilight event.

The evening will be held at Llanymynech on Saturday from 7pm to 9pm. Families will be given the chance to use bat detectors to pick up the calls of different kinds of bats.

There is a £1 charge per child for the event, which is arranged by Oswestry Hills Wildlife Watch Group.

People should meet at the Stables at Llanymynech Heritage Area at 7pm. For further information and to book a place call Wildlife Watch leader David Hardwick on (01691) 828617.

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## NEWS

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## Parkinson's sufferer in bike ride challenge



Parkinson's sufferer Gordon Faulks who has taken on the cycle challenge.

**A PARKINSON'S sufferer has taken up the challenge to complete a sponsored cycle ride around Lake Vyrnwy.**

Gordon Faulks, from Hengeod near Oswestry, was diagnosed with the neurological condition more than 20 years ago. He has agreed to take part in the sponsored event to raise as much cash and awareness as possible for Parkinson's UK.

Mr Faulks said the condition affected his speaking and sometimes caused his body to shut down. But he said he would not let that stop him and has already been training for the 20km event on Sunday.

Mr Faulks, who hopes to raise about £3,000, said: "I have Parkinson's and can only walk about 100 yards but I can cycle. Cycling is good exercise and it is better than jogging as it doesn't hurt the knees."

"I have been training for three months. I have never done a sponsored ride before."

Mr Faulks said he was challenged by a friend to take part in the event. He said: "I

**by Graham Breeze**

was given the challenge and I said I would do it. I know 20km doesn't sound much for some but it is for me.

"My consultant said I was an inspiration. He said he uses me to tell others recently diagnosed that Parkinson's that it is no reason why you can't do something."

All money raised by this event will be in aid of the support and research charity working to finding a cure for Parkinson's.

Paul Jackson-Clark, from Parkinson's UK, said: "Taking part in a cycle ride is a fun and challenging way to raise vital funds to support our work."

He added: "We're leading the way to find a cure, and we're closer than ever. But our work is totally dependant on donations."

"We are incredibly grateful to Gordon for his support and I hope his success will encourage others to sign up to one of our fundraising events." To donate visit [www.virginmoeygiving.com/GordonFaulks](http://www.virginmoeygiving.com/GordonFaulks)

## Chimney warning after fire at house

**NESTING JACKDAWS** almost caused a house to go up in flames near Oswestry, firefighters have said.

The birds had nested in the chimney flue of a house in Llansilin, causing the chimney to catch fire last Thursday.

One crew from Oswestry attended the blaze at 6.40pm and firefighters were on site until 8pm dealing with the incident.

Crew manager Adie Bowen said that the chimney fire was a particularly difficult one to deal with.

Firefighters used a thermal imaging camera to locate the source of the fire and then used rods to clear the chimney. Mr Bowen said: "We ended up having to cut a hole in the wall to get to the nest. As soon as we cut the hole, the nest fell out."

"Basically what we believe were jackdaws had been building a nest in the chimney by collecting twigs, branches and other items."

"There was a lot of smoke coming from the chimney, we saw it as we were pulling up. The wall was showing red hot, the heat had really built up."

"We would advise everyone to have their chimneys swept because nesting birds can cause real problems."

## Surgery date

**OSWESTRY TOWN** Councillor Paul Milner, from Castle Ward, will be holding a surgery for constituents on September 10 at the Guildhall on the Bailey Head between 10am and noon.

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| 06 (56) KIA CEE LS CRDi 5-dr, 30,000 miles                     | £8,750  |
| 06 (56) NEW RENAULT CLIO DCI 5-dr, Silver, 11,000 miles        | £8,650  |
| 06 (56) FORD FIESTA 1.4 TDCI Tonic Blue, £30 road tax          | £6,250  |
| 05 (55) FORD TRANSIT CONNECT SWB White                         | DUE IN  |
| 04 (54) LAND ROVER FREELANDER TD4 SE, Silver                   | £8,950  |
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| 02 (52) ROVER 45 TD1X 5-dr, Wedgwood Blue                      | £1,450  |
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| 03 (03) ROVER 75 1.8 CLUB SE Silver                            | £4,750  |
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**WELSHPOOL**

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**National airplay for singer-songwriter's release**

A NEW SINGLE from Welshpool singer-songwriter Dave Roberts is this week featuring as BBC Radio Wales single of the week.

Recording under the name Dai Robs, the Welshpool artist recorded the single at Old Chapel Studios near Newtown. Produced by Will Barnes, *Waiting for You* is the first offering from the talented singer's first EP playing with a band and is being released under Dai Robs and the Love.

The song will be played four times a day for five days on BBC Radio Wales.

"It's great to have finally got some national airplay and as a proud Welshman it is an honour to be played on BBC Radio Wales and especially as their single of the week," said Dai, pictured left.

A video went live on Monday to coincide with the single's release on iTunes. The video was filmed on the Welsh west coast and includes Welshpool girl Kelly Ward.

# Project to help residents get on property ladder

A COMMUNITY project has been launched in a bid to help get first-time buyers on the property ladder with the plans going on show last Monday.

Castle Caereinion Community Land Trust has teamed up with Mid Wales Housing Association, Powys County Council and the Rural Housing Enabler for the project at Swallows Meadow in Castle Caereinion.

The development is expected to include six family houses and will be built on land donated to the community by Powys County Council which acquired it through a planning section 106 agreement several years ago.

Representatives from Castle Caereinion Community Land Trust and Mid

by Graham Breeze

Wales Housing Association had a stand at Castle Caereinion Garden Fete on Monday to showcase plans.

A site layout plan was on show and local people were able to register an interest in the development which will be for affordable rent or discounted sales, depending on what people want and financial constraints.

Nigel Bowen, Castle Caereinion CLT chairman, said: "Castle Caereinion CLT has been working towards the goal of being able to offer affordable housing for a considerable time."

"The group is enthusiastic at entering into the partnership with MWA, the Powys RHE and Powys County Council. We believe it is a unique part-

nership and the first of its type in Wales – one that will ensure the land at Swallows Meadow will be kept in community ownership in perpetuity.

"The partnership will provide a mix of community democracy along with considerable housing expertise, to ensure our aim of providing affordable homes is achieved."

"We'd like to thank everyone who has supported us up to this point and look forward to welcoming more members of the community into the CLT."

"Castle Caereinion CLT is a not-for-profit, community controlled organisation that owns, develops and manages local assets for the benefit of the local community."

Jude Boutle, Mid Wales Housing's development manager, said: "This is an exciting and unique opportunity."

# WELSH FOOD FESTIVAL

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## Dyfnant Forest Windfarm Community Liaison Panel

### Applications invited

Bellenden are inviting applications from local people and community representatives who would like to serve on a Community Liaison Panel for the proposed Dyfnant Forest Wind Farm, Powys.

The proposal is for a wind farm of up to 35 turbines, capable of producing up to 120 megawatts of renewable energy. The application is likely to be submitted in 2012, and a recent series of Public Information Days have been held to offer initial information to local residents.

The Community Liaison Panel will act as an independent group to facilitate discussion between the developer for the scheme, ScottishPower Renewables, and members of the community, providing an opportunity for constructive dialogue and an exchange of information, under an independent chairmanship. In addition, members will have the opportunity to schedule issue-led discussions on specific topics of interest.

The meetings will not provide a forum for providing support or opposition to the proposal, nor are they intended to discuss any issues or developments beyond the remit of the group – only the proposals for Dyfnant Forest Wind Farm.

Anyone wishing to be considered for membership should request an application form in the first instance and return the completed form by Monday 19th September 2011. Forms can be obtained and sent back to any of the contact details outlined below. Members will be selected so that a broad range of community interests are represented. Applicants should be prepared to attend regular meetings and engage in constructive dialogue about the proposal.

**Application forms can be obtained from Bellenden and returned using the following details:\***

**Email:** [chair@dyfnantforestclp.co.uk](mailto:chair@dyfnantforestclp.co.uk)

**Post:** Dyfnant Forest CLP, Cysgod Y Foel, Gellifor, Ruthin LL15 1SF

**Tel:** 02920 504 105

\*Submission of an application form does not automatically guarantee membership of the Dyfnant Forest Wind Farm Community Liaison Panel.

## Panel Cysylltu Cymunedol Fferm Wynt Coedwig Dyfnant

### Gwahodd Ceisiadau

Mae Bellenden yn gwahodd ceisiadau oddi wrth bobl leol a chynrychiolwyr y gymuned a hoffai wasanaethu ar Banel Cysylltu Cymunedol ar gyfer Fferm Wynt arfaethedig Coedwig Dyfnant, Powys.

Y cynnig yw fferm wynt â hyd at 35 o dyrbinau, sy'n gallu cynhyrchu hyd at 120 megawatt o ynni adnewyddadwy. Mae'r cais yn debygol o gael ei gyflwyno yn 2012, ac mae cyfres o Ddiwrnodau Gwybodaeth i'r Cyhoedd wedi cael eu cynnal yn ddiweddar i gynnig gwybodaeth gychwynnol i breswylwyr lleol.

Bydd y Panel Cysylltu Cymunedol yn gweithredu'n grŵp annibynnol i hwyluso trafodaeth rhwng datblygwr y cynllun, ScottishPower Renewables, ac aelodau o'r gymuned, gan roi cyfle am drafodaeth adeiladol a chyfnewid gwybodaeth, o dan gadeiryddiaeth annibynnol. Yn ogystal, bydd gan aelodau y cyfle i drefnu trafodaethau ynghylch pynciau penodol sydd o ddiddordeb.

Ni fydd y cyfarfodydd yn cynnig fforwm ar gyfer cefnogi neu wrthwynebu'r cynnig, ac nid ydynt wedi eu bwriadu i drafod unrhyw faterion na datblygiadau sydd tu hwnt i gylch gorchwyl y grŵp – dim ond y cynigion ar gyfer Fferm Wynt Coedwig Dyfnant.

Dylai unrhyw un sy'n dymuno cael ei ystyried am aelodaeth ofyn am ffurflen gais i ddechrau, ei llenwi a'i dychwelyd erbyn dydd Llun 19 Medi 2011. Mae'r ffurflenni ar gael o'r cyfeiriad isod a gallwch eu dychwelyd yn yr un modd. Caiff aelodau eu dethol fel bod amrediad eang o fuddiannau cymunedol yn cael eu cynrychioli. Dylai ymgeiswyr fod yn fodlon mynychu cyfarfodydd rheolaidd a chymryd rhan mewn trafodaethau adeiladol ynghylch y cynnig.

**Mae'r ffurflenni cais ar gael a gallwch eu dychwelyd gan ddefnyddio'r cyfeiriad dilynol:\***

**E-Bost:** [chair@dyfnantforestclp.co.uk](mailto:chair@dyfnantforestclp.co.uk)

**Post:** Dyfnant Forest CLP, Cysgod Y Foel, Gellifor, Ruthin LL15 1SF

**Ffôn:** 02920 504 105

\*Nid yw cyflwyno ffurflen gais yn gwarantu aelodaeth Panel Cysylltu Cymunedol Fferm Wynt Coedwig Dyfnant yn awtomatig.

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## Welshpool Camera Club

6th September 2011

New Street Chapel  
Welshpool - 7.30pm

Welshpool Camera Club starts its new term with a new programme of events and workshops to suit all tastes in photography.

The first meeting welcomes new and old members with an overview of the club, its programme and a display of recent work plus practical sessions on the various functions of the Digital SLR camera.

If you are interested in photography and would like to see what we have to offer, please contact Adam on 01686 668066 or visit [www.welshpoolcameraclub.org.uk](http://www.welshpoolcameraclub.org.uk) for more information.



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## WELSHPOOL

Tel: 01691 668094

# Full steam ahead for gala weekend

by Graham Breeze

ENTHUSIASTS ARE expected to come from all across the UK to the Welshpool & Llanfair Light Railway's annual Steam Gala, running from tomorrow, Friday, until Sunday.

The event will feature the railway's most intensive service of the year, with all available locomotives in steam and mixed and goods workings being operated alongside the passenger trains.

Llanfair workshops will be open to the public, while there will be various additional attractions in the yard, along with a licensed bar. On Saturday evening, following the return of the day's final train, the station will be flooded for the night photography session, always a very popular part of the weekend.

Meanwhile Llanfair's leisure centre will be staging the annual garden railway show which always accompanies the W&LLR Gala.

This show, which features large scale models many powered by live steam, is open on Saturday and Sunday and entry is by separate admission. An additional attraction at Welshpool will be an art exhibition staged by the Machynlleth branch of the Society For All Artists. This features pictures created following a day spent on the railway by the group earlier in the year.

All pictures on show will be available to purchase, with a large portion of the proceeds being donated to the railway.

Call 01938 810441 or visit [www.wlr.org.uk](http://www.wlr.org.uk)

## Cameras on way

WELSHPOOL TOWN Council is to spend £4,200 on new CCTV cameras to be installed at the Maesdyre Playground after it was damaged by youths just days after it opened. The town has formed a working group who help to run the CCTV system.

## Business is blooming



A new stall holder has set her business at Welshpool Market Hall. Shirley Jarvis, from Floral Inspiration, is the latest in a number of new businesses to open in the town's market hall.

Picture: Peter Flemmich

## Fascinating diary tales

WELSHPOOL Rotary Club President, Dennis Duggan, extended a warm welcome to visitor Derek Quinn at the weekly lunch on August 24.

Peter Hodgson was thanked for making the arrangements for a successful trip to Stratford on Avon, the previous day, when 25 members and guests travelled by coach to see a

choice of plays. Speaker was Mike Wynne-Griffith, who read some fascinating extracts from his grandfather's diary.

The vote of thanks was given by Terry George.

In the first round of the 2011/12 district quiz the Welshpool team is meeting Newtown on September 12.

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# Iolo pens a year in his busy life

by Graham Breeze

**WILDLIFE EXPERT** and television presenter Iolo Williams is set to release his diary from the past year, which saw him meeting native tribes in America.

Iolo, of Llandysil, near Welshpool is releasing "Blwyddyn Fan Hyn a Fan Draw" a record of his personal diary during 2010.

His interest in wildlife is the main focus of the book, but Mr Williams also charts his personal life including a family holiday to Bangkok over the summer as well as accounts of his working life, including his journeys to America and Canada to film a series with native tribes for Welsh TV channel S4C.

Mr Williams said wildlife and nature was central to everything he did.

Rhodri Ellis Owen, from publishers Gomer, said: "Iolo had a very interesting trip, but he felt the native tribes in Canada were in a much better state than the tribes in America."

"But one of the things Iolo enjoys the most is sitting in a cafe chatting over a cup of tea and a slice of cake."

"Certainly, he had more than enough time to do this in the company of Shan



## Iolo's personal diary

Cothi when filming the series Bro for S4C.

"Iolo is fond of filming programmes about nature as well of course, but it's astonishing that Iolo has time for all the filming, especially when some of the animals that he tries to film aren't happy to cooperate."

"Only by reading his book can we fully appreciate the patience a naturalist has to have in the world of television."

The book describes how he got stuck in some humorous situations. "I was invited to one particular fancy dress party," he said.

"I walked into the party a little bit doubtful in case there was nobody else dressed weirdly, but the place was heaving full of punk rockers, Arab sheikhs, Elton John and every member of the group Abba."



Iolo Williams rides his horse through America, where he visited native tribes.

## Police in witness appeal after theft at compound

POLICE IN Welshpool are appealing for witnesses or information over the theft of a number of heavy plant accessories.

They were stolen from a secure compound in Back Lane, near the old Criggin radio station, over the weekend of July 30 and 31.

A number of digger buckets were taken along with other items, damage was caused to vehicles and diesel stolen.

Anyone who has been offered these items or has any information should call Welshpool police on 101.

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## Rugby club makes bid to boost tourism

OSWESTRY'S RUGBY Club has joined forces with the town's showground to offer better facilities to year round tourists and visitors to the area.

A planning application has been made for a new building at the rugby club at Park Hall, to provide toilets and showers, along with a small gym as part of a tourism plan.

It would serve not only the sports club but also the thousands that stay at the neighbouring showground.

During the summer, when rugby is not played at Park Hall, the grounds are let out to caravanning clubs and others that also hire the neighbouring Oswestry Showground.

But a rugby club spokesman said although there were toilets and shower facilities on both sites more were needed.

"At peak times they can be overcrowded and, depending on the caravan pitch, sometimes very remote."

A stand along building, midway between the two venues is now planned to provide changing facilities, toilets and showers, for both the club and others using the site.

Shropshire Council's Market Towns Revitalisation Programme has awarded a £24,500 grant for the £31,000 improvement plan to facilities.

Meanwhile a grant of £139,172 has been given to Oswestry and District Agricultural Society which runs the Park Hall Showground to help it with £149,172 plans to revamp the venue.

# Warning fires near school could have led to tragedy

by Graham Breeze

**YOUNGSTERS WHO pushed burning rubbish through the fence of a school play area could have set the entire school on fire, it has been claimed.**

Ade Bowen, crew manager for Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service, said the youths had been spotted by residents outside the grounds of the Meadows Primary School in Oswestry. And he said their actions could have led to a "tragedy".

Firefighters were called to the school just before 7pm last Wednesday. They discovered three small fires on a grassy area within the school grounds on Harlech Road, which were quickly extinguished.

Police officers will also check CCTV cameras to establish who was responsible.

Mr Bowen said: "A resident saw youngsters pushing burning material through the fence and onto the school playground."

### Serious

"The young people could easily have set their clothes on fire which could have led to a tragedy. And if the fires had travelled to the hedge that would have gone up and the entire school could have been lost."

"Conditions are so dry at the moment that something like this is really serious."

Mr Bowen said firefighters extinguished the fires within minutes, using a knapsack sprayer, which they also used to cool down the area to ensure the fires did not reignite.

He said: "When we arrived there were smouldering puffs of smoke on the grass. It was very lucky that the resident saw what was happening and rang the fire service immediately."

"We would warn everyone that ground conditions are really dry at the moment."

Richard Ewels, spokesman for West Mercia Police, said: "We were notified by fire services at 7.10pm last night."

"They were attending a grass fire at the play area in Meadows Primary School. When the police got there the fire was out. There were several small areas of charred grass near a metal fence. The police don't know what caused the fire and are checking CCTV."

## Expert to give employment law round-up

EMPLOYMENT LAW will be on the agenda when an Oswestry firm of solicitors holds a seminar at the Lion Quays Hotel near Oswestry.

Lanyon Bowdler will be holding a series of employment law seminars across Shropshire which will provide a general round-up of the latest developments in employment law, together with valuable advice on the Bribery Act 2011.

The seminar for the Oswestry area, which will be presented by partner and head of the employment law department, John Merry, will be held on Tuesday, September 13.

"As every employer will be aware, employment law is constantly changing and it is of vital importance that organisations keep up to date and well informed about employer and employee rights and obligations," said Mr Merry.

The event starts at 9am, with presentations from 9.30am and closes at 12noon. The cost is just £17.50 plus VAT, which will include refreshments.

To obtain a booking form, contact Rachel Donaghey on 01952 224047 or email rachel.donaghey@lblaw.co.uk

## Gran takes plunge to raise money

A GRANDMOTHER has raised £1,000 for charity after taking the plunge and swimming with sharks.

Carol Raistrick, from Gobowen, decided to take up the challenge to support Motor Neurone Disease Association after her brother-in-law was diagnosed with the condition last April.

She arrived at Blue Planet Aquarium, in Cheshire Oaks, on Saturday to be trained before dressing in a wetsuit and entering the pool.

Mrs Raistrick was watched by a large crowd of family and friends including her two grandchildren and her nephew, who came over from Ireland.

She said: "I panicked the first time and lost my breathing apparatus but I was allowed another go. We went into what looked like an absolutely massive tank and the sharks were swimming around."

"There is nothing between you and the sharks. I am not sure how many sharks there were, I lost count after a while. There were sharks and Manta Ray."

"I was given a round of applause by my family afterwards and one of the divers gave me a shark tooth as a memento."

If anyone else would like to make a donation they can contact Mrs Raistrick on (01691) 661566.



Carol Raistrick who has raised cash for the Motor Neurone Disease Association. Picture: Peter Shah

## NEWS

### in brief

#### Witness appeal after store raid

MONEY HAS been taken from a village store after it was broken into.

It is believed two men, travelling in a black car, broke into Martins Store, in Trefonen, near Oswestry, at about 5am last Thursday.

They gained entry by forcing the front door before leaving in the car with a quantity of cash.

Detective Inspector Mick Homden said: "It is possible the offenders may have been in the locality for some time before they broke in."

"I am appealing to anyone who spotted anything suspicious to get in touch. We have spoken to several witnesses but are anxious to receive any further information which may assist our investigation. The number to call is Oswestry CID on 0300 333 3000," he added. Information can be given anonymously to Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

#### Talk on National Trust property

MEMBERS OF an Oswestry history and archaeology group will hear more about a National Trust property at their next meeting.

The meeting of the Oswestry & Border History and Archaeology Group is on September 9 in the town's memorial hall at 7.30pm. The speaker will be Janine Young who will give a presentation entitled Defence, Decadence & Decline: the archaeology of Erddig.

The meeting is part of Oswestry & Beyond, the area's programme of heritage open days in and around Oswestry from September 8 to 11.

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## FEATURES

# Fireworks and fun on waterways in town

## Advertisement feature

**ELLESMERE Boat Rally** is an annual celebration of life on the Llangollen Canal and regularly attracts crowds of visitors to the market town.

This year the town's waterways are expected to welcome dozens of canal boats, many of them decorated with lights, bunting and flowers from September 9 to 11.

The free event is being organised by the Shropshire Union Canal Society, which says it is hoping for good weather and another strong turnout after last year's successful event.

### Moored

Boats are expected to be moored in and around Ellesmere over the weekend.

The fun starts on September 9 with a fireworks display and a concert from the Wem Jubilee Band.

On September 10 a market will run from 8.30am to 1.30pm followed by a hog roast and entertainment from the Wychcraft Big Band at 6pm.

A fun dog show will be held on September 11 from 10am followed by an awards ceremony at 12.30pm. Stalls, craft demonstrations and a host of other attractions will also be held throughout the weekend.

Visitors can also sample life on the canal by taking a water taxi between various points of interest.

Terry O'Brien, chairman of the Shropshire Union Canal Society, said: "We are hoping for good weather and a



Crowds milling around at Ellesmere Boat Rally



All the fun of the circus and one of the decorated barges during the boat rally

good turnout. This year Paul Mills, who has organised the event for a number of years, is due to retire from the society's council, so we really hope it's a great festival for him.

"We regularly attract dozens of boats and last year we had more than 50. The event is free to attend, but there are charges for some of the activities on offer.

"Throughout the weekend lots of stalls will be selling their diverse and wonderful wares along the towpath and in the adjacent field, and water taxis will be taking visitors along the

canal." Car parking will be available in Horton's Field opposite the town's marina.

Event organisers say while the rally is free to visit, a donation will be appreciated.

Tickets for Friday and Saturday evening festivities can be purchased in advance from Rainbows in Scotland Street, Ellesmere.

They can also be bought by calling (0151) 3361049 or 07761 739439.

Alternatively people can buy tickets for the events on the day from the event manager's boat.

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# Area's pupils smash GCSE record

by Graham Breeze

**EXAM RECORDS** were smashed at the area's schools with pupils achieving some of the best GCSE results ever seen.

The Marches School in Oswestry, Shropshire's first academy school, surpassed expectations by raising the pass rate to 88 per cent for 5 A\*-C GCSEs.

Headteacher Sarah Longville said: "This has been an outstanding year; our students have once again surpassed all expectations academically, which is a credit to the dedicated staff and extremely supportive parents."

"I am very proud to be part of such a forward thinking learning community and I am very much looking forward to our start as an academy as we have very firm foundations to build on."

## Delighted

Welshpool High School headteacher Jim Toal said: "Once again our GCSE results are very strong, and outperform external targets set for the school."

"The percentage of students achieving five or more GCSEs at grades A\* to C is 77 per cent, with nearly 60 per cent gaining this threshold including English and Mathematics."

"We are also delighted that 97 per cent of our students gained at least five passes and that no student left without a recognised qualification."

Outstanding results were reported by Moreton Hall Girls School near Oswestry.

With 72 per cent A-A\* grades and over a third of the girls achieving top grades in all of their subjects, 2011 is one of Moreton's best years to date, staff said. The school's A to C pass rate was 98 per cent this year.

Principal Jonathan Forster said: "We were thrilled with our best ever A-level results last week and these GCSE results are equally impressive."

Llanfyllin High School was celebrating "excellent" results. Headteacher Carl Mincher said: "All pupils have passed all exams. We are so proud of



Marches School pupils Emily Jones and Rebecca Parker both gets nine GCSEs.



Pupils getting their GCSE results at Welshpool High School.



Rachael Holz, right, hugs her friend Rosie Smith as they celebrate their results in their GCSEs at Welshpool High School.



Marches School pupils Warrick Raiton calls home with his results.



David Thomas and Luke Gillcrest look at their results at The Marches School.



Warrick Raiton gets eight GCSEs, David Thomas, six GCSEs, Evan Woolgrove, 10 GCSEs and Chris Smethurst, 10 GCSEs.



Stefanie Leigh-Ford, 16, with 7 A\* and 2 A grades and Millie Adams-Davies, 16, with 10 A\* grades at Moreton Hall School

their 100 per cent pass rate. We are delighted that 86 per cent of pupils gained five or more A\*-C grades. "Well over 500 A\* or A grades were achieved, representing a third of all entries."

"In combination with these many pupils have also completed vocational BTEC courses across a range of subjects including agriculture and engineering and their levels of achievement are equally impressive."

"An excellent 100 per cent pass rate across all subjects with almost half of awards at Distinction Star has given us great cause for celebration."

For the second year running nearly 90 per cent of students at Rhyn Park School in St Martins achieved five or more passes at C or above.

Nigel Keates, acting head of School, said: "These are fantastic results which show that the school is continuing to do well for all students."

## Reputation

"Six years ago only 37 per cent of our students reached this level so the fact that nearly three times as many have made it this time confirms our reputation as one of the fastest improving

schools in the country. More importantly, almost all of our students will now be able to progress to their chosen courses at college and we look forward to see them continuing to achieve and to move on to university in two years time. "This is a tribute to the amazing skill and dedication of all the teaching and support staff here at Rhyn Park and to the hard work of the students themselves."

David Evans, headteacher at Caereinion High School in Llanfair Caereinion, said he was "delighted" with how the students had performed.

He said: "We are delighted with our outstanding results this year. Our overall A\* to G pass rate was 99.9 per cent and our A\* to C pass rate was 84.7 per cent which compares favourably with our excellent results of recent years."

Lakelands School in Ellesmere said the number of students gaining five A\* to C grades was down slightly compared with last year, but the number gaining five A to G grades was almost 100 per cent.

Headteacher Ian Sanders said: "The students should be proud of these well-

deserved results as they are a reflection of the positive attitude that has been the hallmark of the year group."

Students at Oswestry School achieved some "outstanding" results this year with pupils scoring the highest number of A\* grades for several years. Almost 40 per cent of the grades were A\* or A - with half of these A\* - and 86 per cent of the grades were A\* - C grade.

Headmaster Douglas Robb said: "I am very proud of the GCSE results this year and pupils are to be congratulated after working so hard."

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# Legend of gingerbread grandad

**DOWN YOUR STREET**

with Ben Bentley

## Part two of Coppice Drive

I'M sitting in resident Sue Corke's house being offered a cup of tea. She tells me how she's lived on her street for 36 years and would never dream of moving.

It seems to the pattern of things round these parts – residents are content to stay put on Coppice Drive, Oswestry.

As we chat, from another room come sighs and words spoken under the breath. Then the sound of an electric whisk. Then, finally, the sound of a man frustrated. "Aagghhh!"

### Skill

That's Dave, says Sue. Dave is her husband, aka the Gingerbread Grandad. He's in the kitchen, making gingerbread men. Again.

"He makes quite a lot of gingerbread men," says Sue. "He's honed the skill, and everybody loves them. I think it's because they are not too ginger-ey. My grandkids call him Gingerbread Grandad."

Currently he's knocking out a dozen of his finest biscuit blokes for nursery kids where his niece works. Down at the nursery, Gingerbread Grandad is a legend. He can get even the most fussy of eaters to hobble on his signature dish.

"One little boy won't eat much," says Sue. "He made his gingerbread men and the boy



Dave Corke, aka Gingerbread Grandad, at work in the kitchen.



Sue Corke and her granddaughter Kelly Tookie.



Kelly with 'talking cat' Jadey.



Lesley Sinclair lives Coppice Drive.



loves them. Everywhere he goes he takes his gingerbread. Everybody loves grandad's ginger bread men!"

Does Sue? "I don't like them," she says. "Well I do, but they give me indigestion!"

It's as though I've walked into a marketing meeting for a new line of cookies. He ought to create his own line of biscuit people, should grandad. All this and I've not met him yet.

"Oh, he's in the kitchen... he spends hours in there, especially on a Saturday. He's got his own cookbook. He does all sorts. Lemon drizzle cake, marble cake... he loves his baking."

"Aagghhh!" That's Dave again. I pop my head round the kitchen door, and there he is with his secret ginger mixture – a large bowl of the pre-baked gloopy stuff, all waiting to spring into life as little biscuit blokes.

Sue is looking after one of her grandchildren, Kelly Tookie, who is on her school holidays. The pair spend time birdwatching in their garden, referring back to the Book of British Birds in order to identify them.

"There have been lots of big black birds just lately. Really big ones that didn't come before," says Sue.

"They are everywhere," says

Kelly, dashing off to get a better look at one of the feathered friends that has just landed on a chimney pot over the road.

Turns out that Sue and Kelly are pretty fond of their animals. I meet Jadey, the talking cat.

"She says hello," says Kelly.

"Say 'hello'," says Sue to the black feline named Jadey. She's not for talking, though, not today. Jadey was a stray, and it seems Sue cannot resist rescuing needy creatures. She's had guinea pigs, rabbits and chinchillas as well as cats.

"And the mice," she says. "My daughter found two pet mice in a toilet in Rhyl. In a box, so they were pets. She said 'I can't leave them here, could you have them?'"

Neighbour Lesley Sinclair has lived in Coppice Drive since July, 1973. She remembers it well.

"There were not a lot of kids in the street at the time," she says.

"I'd got mine – well two of them by then – and my friend had four kids."

"So there were these kids able to grow up here together which was great. It's a quiet area and great to bring kids up in – there was never, and still isn't, any trouble up here."

"I would hate to move from here – I love the street."

Lesley works as a housekeeper at the orthopaedic hospital.

"I love my job but legislation has changed and as in other places, demands are more," she says. "But it's a good place to work." At the time of writing, the water is off in the street for a few hours. Finally the men from the water board arrive and turn the water back on.

Gingerbread Grandad is delighted. He's been suffering without his H2O. As has a growing army of hungry gingerbread men fans.



A view of Coppice Drive.

## Heroin seller is sent to prison

A WELSHPOOL man caught selling heroin to an undercover police officer has been jailed. Michael Anthony Evans, from Bryn Castell on the Oldford Estate at Welshpool, was jailed for 18 months at Mold Crown Court.

Evans, 28, admitted supplying and offering to supply heroin in May. The court heard a policeman, posing as a heroin addict, went onto the streets of Newtown and Welshpool in an operation against class A drugs to catch dealers.

Miss Caroline Harris, prosecuting, said the officer was approached by the defendant near the Spar shop in the town. The court heard Evans started chatting to the officer and told him he could get him heroin from Shrewsbury.

The officer gave him £20 and he returned with two heroin wraps. Mr Huw Edwards, defending, said his client had previous convictions for 76 offences but nothing for supplying drugs.

It was his case that the officer was a very good actor and pretended to be "rattling" for heroin.

Mr Edwards said his client was not a dealer in heroin.

## Oswald's Tree

OLD OSWESTRY Landscape & Archaeology Project presents Oswald's Tree, its 5th annual seminar, at The Marches School on October 29. The seminar is between 10.15am and 4pm. Contact Heather Hidden on 01691 662602 or e-mail heather.hidden@btinternet.com

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## Listed countryside property has been renovated with care

This Grade II Listed property has been tastefully renovated and contains a wealth of original features including exposed beams and ceiling timbers.

Llwyn Onn, Llansanffraid, is on the market for £260,000 and comprises four bedrooms, two ensuite, entrance porch, hall, large breakfast kitchen, cellar/family room, sitting room, utility, cloakroom, rear entrance hall and family bathroom, an enclosed garden, a patio, garage and shed.

For more details please contact James & Co on 01691 657077 or [www.jamesandcoproperty.co.uk](http://www.jamesandcoproperty.co.uk)

## Former barn with an annexe is an equestrian's delight

This large five bedroom barn conversion is located in an attractive rural area around a mile from the village of Dudleston Heath, three miles away from Ellesmere. Eastwick Farm Barn, Eastwick, has a wealth of features including oak beams, flooring and windows, ledged and braced doors, and large feature windows allowing plenty of light. The spacious family home includes separate accommodation, also finished to a superb standard, and is ideal for an extended family and/or holiday let for an extra income. The accommodation is entered via the reception hall, which has a gallery landing and stairs rising to the first floor. Downstairs there are cloakroom, utility room and well equipped kitchen with breakfast area.

The kitchen has a range of fitted oak fronted wall and base units, a Belfast sink, a double electric oven and electric hob, and built-in dishwasher and fridge. The dining room is spacious and leads into the living room where there is a wood burner on a tiled hearth. Double glazed sliding patio doors lead out to the courtyard. The accommodation is completed with a hall-way/reading room and office.

Upstairs are five bedrooms, two of which have ensuite facilities, as well as two bathrooms, one a Jack and Jill style. The annexe currently comprises a cinema room, sitting room with double glazed double sliding patio doors leading to the courtyard, a gym room, bedroom and dressing area.

The property is approached through farmstyle gates onto a gravelled driveway, with flower borders to the side and outside tap, to the right of the property is the orchard which is approximately half an acre. The driveway sweeps round the property through gates and onto a gravelled courtyard. There is a paved area and space for vehicle turning and parking, plus a lawned area to the front of the property.

The land next to the paddock extends to approximately 1.5 acres, with a paddock and an additional piece of land, ideal for stables, subject to planning. Eastwick Farm Barn has a guide price of £525,000 and is on the market with Samuel Wood and Company. For more details please call 01691 659951 or visit [www.samuelwood.co.uk](http://www.samuelwood.co.uk)



## Five-bedroomed home in elevated setting over town

Peniarth, Red Bank, is a home set in an elevated position on the outskirts of Welshpool with an asking price of £249,950.

The house is set in lawned gardens to the front and rear and has a single garage. It has a sitting room, a dining room, a kitchen, cloakroom, master bedroom with ensuite shower room, four further bedrooms and a bathroom.

For information contact Morris Marshall and Poole on 01938 554818 or [www.morrismarshall.co.uk](http://www.morrismarshall.co.uk)



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## PROPERTIES OF THE WEEK



### Refurbished semi-detached bungalow on the market

Number 16 Cambrian Avenue, Whittington, is a refurbished semi detached bungalow in a cul-de-sac location, is on the market for £139,950 with no chain.

The property features a modern fitted kitchen including appliances, lounge, two bedrooms, and family bathroom.

Outside is a detached single garage and landscaped rear garden.

For more information please contact Morris Marshall & Poole on 01691 679595 or visit [www.morrismarshall.co.uk](http://www.morrismarshall.co.uk)



### Hill views from four-bedroomed family residence

Number 2 Briedden View, Middletown – available for £214,950 – is a four-bedroomed detached family home with views over the Middletown Hills.

The accommodation includes entrance hall, kitchen/dining area, lounge, study, utility area, cloakroom, integral garage, master bedroom with ensuite shower room, a further three bedrooms and the family bathroom.

For more information please contact Halls on 01691 670320 or visit [www.hallsgb.com](http://www.hallsgb.com)



### Detached countryside home is only seven years old

Number 4 Onnen Gardens, Trefonen, is on the market for £269,950 and comprises a spacious and well presented detached home only seven years.

The accommodation includes entrance porch, wide entrance hall, cloakroom, sitting room with bay, separate dining room, study, kitchen/breakfast room, utility, four excellent bedrooms, family bathroom, ensuite and double garage with parking close by for several vehicles.

For more information please contact Bowen Son and Watson on 01691 652367 or [www.bowensonandwatson.co.uk](http://www.bowensonandwatson.co.uk)



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## PROPERTIES OF THE WEEK



## Four-bedroom also includes adjoining granny annexe

Dallas, 32 Upper Church Street, Oswestry is a detached traditionally built home with an adjoining granny annexe and large garden. The property, is for sale for £295,000 with no chain. Accommodation includes an entrance lobby, office, reception hall, lounge, dining room, kitchen, utility room, cloakroom, store room, garage, three bedrooms and bathroom. The annexe has a sitting room, bedroom and large ensuite.

For more information please contact JJ Dell & Co on 01691 653437 or visit [www.jjdell.co.uk](http://www.jjdell.co.uk)



## Cottage comes with 4.25 acres of garden and grounds

Argae Cottage in Haimwood, Llandrinio, is a mature three bedroom cottage with an assortment of outbuildings, in about 4.25 acres of gardens and grounds, with further land available by separate negotiation.

There is a conservatory, kitchen/breakfast room/family room, sitting room, inner hall, study/bedroom, shower room, master bedroom, two further bedrooms and bathroom. Offers in the region of £350,000.

For more information please contact Parry Lowarch on 01743 343 343 or visit [www.parrylowarch.co.uk](http://www.parrylowarch.co.uk)



## Mid-terraced Victorian house is close to town centre

Number 50 Welsh Walls, Oswestry, is a deceptively spacious two bedroom mid terrace Victorian townhouse close to the town centre in a well regarded area with off road parking overlooking the town's Cae Glas Park.

Available with no chain for £125,000, the home has some original features such as sash windows. There is off road parking to the front and a lawned and paved garden to the rear.

For more information please contact Town & Country on 01691 679631 or visit [www.townandcountryoswestry.com](http://www.townandcountryoswestry.com)



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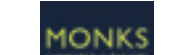
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## Online

Many of you will not have discovered the shop yet and apart from amazing wines & spirits there are a bewildering array of very special items for you or anybody special you need to reward. The shop recently went online and can be found at [www.psssst.biz](http://www.psssst.biz)

You'll not need reminding that the run up to Christmas starts even before the summer we never seem to get.

This year is no different and already Christmas day is more than half full. Details of our entire Christmas programme are available both directly from The Walls and online [www.the-walls.co.uk](http://www.the-walls.co.uk)

Our seasonal menus continue to roll on and we have to thank you for doing such a good job of supporting and enjoying our bit of summer fun, the "Pasta Carving" menu.

As soon as it gets even colder we'll replace it with a wintry alternative - watch the website and the railings.



Geoff Hughes and Kate Bottoms are the owners of The Walls Restaurant



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A more sedate time awaits in the delightful city of Chester with its unique combination of Roman and Medieval heritage, packed with attractions including the Rows, a magnificent cathedral and the second most photographed clock in Britain after Big Ben; The Eastgate Clock.

Price includes: return coach travel, overnight accommodation, free time in Blackpool, a coach tour of the Illuminations, a visit to Chester and the services of a coach driver/tour representative.

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## Ramblers to explore grounds of castle

AN OSWESTRY rambling group is to explore a castle and canal.

Oswestry Group of Ramblers will meet on Thursday for a four-mile walk from Welshpool around the castle grounds and canal path.

They will leave Lloyd Street car park at 10am.

On Sunday there will be three different walks. The first is an eight-mile strenuous walk from Rowen to Taly-Fan. It will return via Llanbedre-y-cennin, old church on paths and tracks. Walkers will leave from the central car park at 9am.

The second one is a five-mile moderate walk up to Rodney's Pillar led with some climbing on good tracks. This leaves from the central car park at 10am.

The third is a four-mile leisurely walk from Oswestry to Morda in lanes and fields, returning via Llanforda. It leaves Lloyd Street car park at 1.15pm.

Last Thursday 20 members walked from Buttington Wharf, near Welshpool, to Beacon Ring.

## Free county fete

LIBERAL Democrats in Montgomeryshire are running their annual County Fete at Forden Community Centre on September 10 at 2pm. Party Chairman Ted Edwards said, "All are welcome and entry is free so please come along. There will be stalls and games and a grand draw - it's a great afternoon out for all the family!"

# Mum Claire cooks up dream career from a baking hobby

**BEING A MOTHER, a wife and a businesswoman isn't always easy but an Oswestry baker said if you have a dream you just have to go for it.**

Claire Rogers, from Crumbilicious, is making her way up the success ladder after deciding to set up her own cake making businesses in July 2010.

After only a matter of months she has already made a name for herself in the baking industry.

From the humble beginnings of baking cakes in her kitchen she has now been selected to teach at top vegetarian cookery school Cordon Vert.

Ever since she was a child the 31-year-old has had a strong work ethic instilled in her. Her parents owned a guest house in Aberdovey and so she pitched in to help with the business.

Unlike other children who would think nothing more than to spend a Saturday morning curled up in front of the TV watching cartoons, Mrs Rogers would be up and helping with breakfast for guests.

### Chef

When she was old enough to do paid work she helped out at a local hotel before joining the Air Force when she was 17.

Here she was a chef and learned many cookery skills she still uses today.

By the time she reached 23 years old she had about 10 years of catering experience under her belt.

"It got to a point in my career where I wanted a change. I had been working in catering since I was 14."

So she moved to Oswestry and became the manager of English Walls' shop, Rainbows End.

It was in Oswestry that she met her husband and started a family.

The mother of two still worked hard and became a tutor for Walford and North Shropshire College.

In January last year she was about to start a new job in Telford when things went

## WOMEN OF SUBSTANCE

with Chrissy Symmons



wrong. It all spiralled out of control when I dislocated my knee," she said.

"I slipped on the ice in January and couldn't start the job. "So I ended up being unemployed."

But she hated being out of work and so wracked her brains to try and work out how to bring home some cash. She decided to take the plunge and turn her baking hobby into her own business.

She said: "I jumped into it. I am a very determined person and when I make my mind up about something I am determined to do it."

"It was a scary thing to do but if you don't try you never know how it will turn out."

She is now a successful businesswoman receiving hundreds of orders for cakes and teaching courses at learning centres around the country.

She said: "I had a lady ordering a Christening cake and she asked me about starting a business. She also had a little one and didn't think going back to work was right for her. It is hard juggling life sometimes."

"You can miss out on a social life. Getting the balance right is very hard. It is either being all mum or all work and I need time for me and my husband."

"But things have to fit round the children. That is something I am quite strong about. I want my businesses to be successful but family comes first. Sometimes you have to say no."

For more information about Claire's cakes and future courses visit [www.crumbilicious.co.uk](http://www.crumbilicious.co.uk)



Getting the work and life balance is hard, says Claire Rogers

## NEWS

### in brief

#### Talented young take part in tour

**TALENTED YOUNGSTERS** from the Powys/Shropshire border are touring with the National Youth Brass Band, Choir, Dance, Orchestra and Theatre of Wales.

They will be part of 18 public performances and between them will cover around 1,000 miles - from St David's in Pembrokeshire to Gateshead in the north of England.

Councillor Stephen Hayes, Powys Council Cabinet Member for Learning and Leisure, said: "It's a great achievement for these talented young people to perform at this level. This is also recognition of the excellent support given by their teachers and local music, theatre and dance clubs."

Included are: Catrin Jones, Llanfyllin High School, National Youth Theatre of Wales; Osian Davies, Llanfair Caereinion, National Youth Wind Orchestra of Wales and Ruth Reynolds, Oswestry School - National Youth Orchestra of Wales.

#### Erddig Hall on meeting agenda

**ERDDIG HALL**, near Wrexham, will be on the agenda at the Oswestry & Border History & Archaeology Group meet on September 9.

Janine Young will speak on "defence, decadence and decline - the archaeology of Erddig" in the Memorial Hall at 7.30pm. Details at [www.heritageopendays.org.uk](http://www.heritageopendays.org.uk) and at Oswestry Library. The programme can also be downloaded from <http://issuu.com/hebestofoswestry/docs/www.oswestrymuseum.org.uk>

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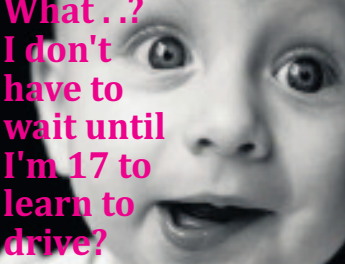


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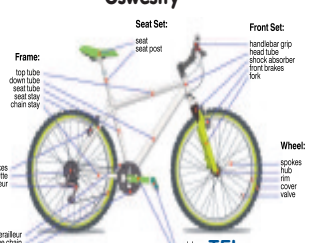
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# MARKET REPORTS

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## Welshpool livestock market

Morris Marshall & Poole and Norman Lloyd report on a highly successful auction at Welshpool on Monday.

**OTMS (61)**  
A good entry of 61 over 30-month cattle sold very well to average 126ppkg for 57 older cows, 168ppkg for 2 older bulls and 145ppkg and 133ppkg for the under 48-month-old heifer and steer respectively. ED & MJ Jones Gelli sold an Aberdeen Angus cow weighing 763kg to a top market price of £1106.35. D W Robinson & Sons Upper Trefnant presented a Limousin cow to 183ppkg for the heifers. G E Davies & Sons Cwm-bromley presented three fat heifers to a top price of 216ppkg which was purchased by MJ Birwistle & Co. 208ppkg went to Moorland Food Ltd and 196ppkg was sold to G R Evans & Co. D E W Hughes Plas Gwyn presented nine steers and they sold to a top price of 200ppkg on three occasions. Selling to Moorland Foods Ltd. The Briarwood Products Ltd price of £25 goes to G E

**FAT CATTLE (34)**  
A very good entry of 34 fat cattle sold to a fantastic average of 197ppkg for the steers and 183ppkg for the heifers. G E Davies & Sons Cwm-bromley presented three fat heifers to a top price of 216ppkg which was purchased by MJ Birwistle & Co. 208ppkg went to Moorland Food Ltd and 196ppkg was sold to G R Evans & Co. D E W Hughes Plas Gwyn presented nine steers and they sold to a top price of 200ppkg on three occasions. Selling to Moorland Foods Ltd. The Briarwood Products Ltd price of £25 goes to G E

Davies & Sons Cwm-bromley for the highest ppkg animal sold on the day.

**PRIME LAMBS (6070)**  
An entry of 6070 prime lambs, selling to an average of 170ppkg.

Lights (410) to 183ppkg from W T Jones & Co Caerberlan Uchaf. Others to 182ppkg from W & R Beaumont Cwmarnedd. Average of 175ppkg.

Standards (1065) to 188ppkg from C R Ellis Ty Uchaf. Others to 186ppkg from D R Owen & Sons Sandilands. Average of 175ppkg.

Mediums (3616) to 194ppkg from H Hughes & Son Hendy. Others to 181ppkg from D R Owen & Sons Sandilands. Average of 168ppkg.

Heavys (903) to 218ppkg from A P Morgan Brynhaul. Others to 172ppkg from T & B Williams Cilmaur. Average of 157ppkg.

Over weights (48) to 240ppkg from W K Davies Offa Way. Others to 215ppkg from E S Evans Rowanberry. Average of 149ppkg.

**CULL EWE (3691)**  
Yet again a massive entry of 3691 cull sheep presented for sale, saw ewes selling to average £56.72 per head and cull rams £68.59 per head. M& JE Jones & DCE Davies presented cull ewes to a top price of £135 per head. CL & C Watkins Bank Farm sold ewes to £116 per head and cull rams to £126 per head. Cull Rams topped £146 per head from GV & ML Hawker Troedrhwiadwen. Weekly sale of cull sheep to immedi-

ately follow the sale of fat lambs at approximately 12noon.

**STORE EWES AND STORE LAMBS.**

Store Lambs.  
An entry of 548 store lambs selling to a strong average of £55.75. A pen of quality texel tup lambs topped the sale at £75 from R Atkins 1 Shopfach Kerry. Texell theave lambs reached £67 from G H Edwards & Son Upper Oaks Pulverbatch. Good Quality mule wether lambs sold to £66 from M E Thomas & Son Felincoed Llanbister. Mixed and Clean lambs made £62.50 from A C Jones Caestwbrwn Llannerfyl and mixed and tup lambs up to £56.50 from RH & ME Lewis Brynhoth Farm Penybont. Demand remains high as shown by a large crowd of potential purchasers. Sale will commence at 10.30am next week.

Store Ewes.  
Good quality entry of 868 store ewes entered the market this week. Purebred Texel yearling topped the sale at £268 from CG & GM Jones Penybryn Kerry. Two-year-old ewes were up to £132 from GHM Williams Caethro Welshpool. Good quality pure bred Suffolk three-year-old ewes made £111 from E S Evans Rowanberry Westbury. Mule full mouthed ewes reached £114. Quality texel ewe lambs reached £138 from J Price Llwyn Cwmerlyn.

Rams were up to £357 from ME & MR Roberts Woodleasowes Westbury. If

you have any stock you would like to bring, please let us know so that we can advertise them for you. Sale of store ewes will commence at 11am next week through the ring.

**ORGANIC AND CONVENTIONAL STORE CATTLE AND WEANINGS**  
There was an excellent demand for both organic and conventional store cattle at the end of the August Fair at Welshpool on Monday. With finishers having sold their cattle well over the summer there were plenty of potential buyers looking to source cattle to replenish their sheds. Top prices and averages in both sections where as follows:

Store Steers:  
Limousin (x1) 330kg 211.50ppkg from R W Williams & Son Rhospnwa.  
Salerx (x1) 350kg 211.4ppkg from E & E Jones Rhiwgam.  
Limousin (x1) 415kg 208ppkg from RB & M & RM Jones Pentre Isa.  
Salerx (x4) 337kg 208ppkg from E & E Jones Rhiwgam.  
Salerx (x4) 411kg 204ppkg from A F Beavan Black Hall.

Store Heifers:  
Limousin (x3) 473kg 203ppkg W L Hamer The Bryn.  
Limousin (x1) 405kg 200ppkg CE & R Emberton Coedafol.  
Limousin (x2) 412kg 194ppkg IC & EA Jerman Pigeon House.  
Limousin (x5) 457kg 192ppkg W L Hamer The Bryn.  
Charolais (x4) 408kg

192ppkg J Ryder Maes-machreth..

Weanling Steers and Heifers

Limousin steers (x2) 305kg £680 CE & R Emberton Coedafol.  
Limousin Heifers (x1) 345kg £670 CE & R Emberton Coedafol.

**DAIRY COWS**  
An entry of six dairy cattle met with an excellent trade once again on a day when yet again more could have been sold. Three heifers giving between 28 & 30kg from R & R Corfield Brynnyant sold to a top of £1980, with two others making £1930 and £1800. A BMW Degas daughter from TE & MA Jerman Penyffrid sold for £1650 whilst another made £1410. A P James & Son Gwernigop Pe nual sold a 3rd Calver for £1450. A breakdown of the prices achieved where as follows:

£1800 + 3 lots, 1600-£1800 1 lot, £1400-£1600 2 lots.

**Oswestry cattle auctions**  
**FAT CATTLE: (87)**  
ANOTHER GOOD show of quality cattle forward, but more cattle required each week to satisfy demand. Top slots hit 220p for steers, 215p for bulls and 216p for heifers with one man topping all three sections Mr D Hughes.

An overall market average of 178p was achieved with the highest in the lump being £1322 for a bull and bottom book of 100p for a very plain friesian bull. If you have cattle

to sell please contact the auctioneer Jonathan Evans on 07971 002650 or the market office.

Young bulls (37) overall average 181.5p.  
Light bulls (3) average 160.5p (£708/head) selling to 215p from D Hughes Plasgwyn Bungalow.  
Medium bulls (18) average 179.5p (£900/head) selling to 214p from E D & H L Morris & Sons Maes.

Heavy bulls (16) average 186p (£1150/head) selling to 197p from E L Evans & Co Green.  
Steers (17) overall average 170.5p.  
Light steers (1) selling to 220p (£880/head) from D Hughes Plasgwyn Bungalow.  
Medium steers (2) average 196p (£970/head) selling to 206p from D Hughes Plasgwyn Bungalow.  
Heavy steers (14) average 165.5p (£1025/head) selling to 179p from O W Lloyd & Son Tanllan.

Heifers (33) overall average 177.5p.  
Medium heifers (7) average 174p (£798/head) selling to 200p from J Gittos Wrexham.  
Heavy heifers (26) average 178.5p (£955/head) selling to 206p from D Hughes Plasgwyn Bungalow.  
A good number forward, but all cattle needed every week especially smart handyweight cattle. Thank you for your continued support.

**FAT LAMBS: (3349)**  
An improved entry of 3349

compared with 2800 on the same day in 2010, with an overall average of 176p/kg. 706 light lambs levelled at 177.5p/kg peaking at 194p/kg for 31kg lambs making £61.

1063 standard lambs peaked at 201p/kg with 39kg lambs making £78.50 from G R Jones Cefn Abertan.

1187 medium lambs peaked at 190p/kg with 42kg lambs making £80 from M & S Jones Lower Forest Farm. 265 heavy lambs averaged 160p/kg peaking at £88.80.

Superlights to 176p average 156p lights to 194p average 177.5p, standards to 201p average 180p, mediums to 190p average 172p, heavys to 170p average 159.5p, others to 166p average 140p. Overall average 176p.

**FAT EWES: (992)**  
Ewes to 135.00p average £48.50, rams to £100.00, average £64.50.  
Please note: All sheep entering the market must be tagged.

**CALVES: (73)**  
Improved quality entry selling to a fantastic trade throughout. Best continental males to £322 and females to £271. Friesian bulls much sharper to a top of £78. British Blue Bulls topping at £322 from Messrs Lammie Kenwick Wood, £285 from Messrs Astley Cefn Farm, £258 from Messrs Wigley Drenwyd.

Limousin Bulls to £318 from Messrs Powell Cil Penre £285 from Messrs Davies Ty Brith, £245 from Messrs

Wildbore Carreghofa Farm. Limousin heifers to £271 from Messrs Powell Cil Penre £255 £258 £250 from Messrs Holland Ashes Farm. British Blue Heifers to £265 from Messrs Davies Ty Brith £245 £238 from Messrs Evans Dolobran Hall. Simmental Bulls to £280 from Messrs Gilman Birch Hall. Charolais Bulls to £278 Charolais Heifers to £220 from Messrs Powel Coed-mawr. Hereford Bulls to £218 from Messrs Savage Glanfein.

**U72 & CULL COWS: (59)**  
An entry of 59 cattle met with another fantastic trade with cows to 169p/kg and heifers to 167p/kg. Top priced cow £1156.00 and top price steer £1260.85.

**Cows:** Limousin to 169p average 131.22p/kg; Friesian to 137p average 109.70p/kg; Belgian Blue to 129p average 115.46p/kg; Welsh Black to 143p average 126.84p/kg. Hereford to 135p average 134.56p/kg.

**Heifers:** Limousin to 167p average 155.95p/kg; Friesian to 148p average 137.63p/kg.

**Steers:** Charolais to 125p; Limousin to 167p; 59 Cattle average 118.30p/kg.

If any vendor has changed their Farm Assured details please could you notify the market office 01691 653547 so our database can be updated many thanks.

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## NOSTALGIA

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## Tradition extended at show

THE PRESIDENT of Saturday's Llanfair Caereinion Show will be maintaining a family tradition by following in his father's footsteps.

This year's president is undertaker, Geraint Peate, who has been a staunch supporter of the show since it re-started in 1973.

He follows in the footsteps of his father who was show president in 1991. Many people know Geraint for his comical commentary on the terrier racing.

Bumper entertainment is on offer at the show, which following the success of last year's venue on the A458, will again be held at Llysun.

There is a varied programme of main ring entertainment, with strongman Mighty Smith, Meirion Owen and the 'Quack Pack' and Whitchurch Dog Display Team.

There is archery, a climbing wall, terrier racing and a dog show.

Prize money of more than £500 will be competed for in the clay pigeon shoot with heats tonight and tomorrow.

A free bus will run from Llanfair to and from the show, with one journey to and from Foel.

## Sad day for spectators as final whistle blew at Victoria Road

by Toby Neal

**THERE WERE** some heavy hearts among the spectators as the curtain came down on football at Oswestry Town's Victoria Road ground after more than half a century.

For some among the onlookers, memories came flooding back of the days when they laced up their boots and went out to do battle in Oswestry Town shirts.

Five ex-players, whose careers spanned more than 20 years from 1946 to 1967 and who came for a last farewell before their old arena was turned over to the developers were, from left, Edgar Cornes, Micky Ryan, Curly Rogers, Gordon Rogers, and Merrick Corfield.

## Memories

That last match was played on April 2, 1988, and the soggy weather matched the mood of mourning.

More than 500 people turned up to provide the backdrop for Oswestry's farewell to their fans. Supporters with 50, 60, or even 70 years of following Oswestry's fortunes shook their heads and shed a few tears as they had a last look around the ground.

Visiting team Mossley were not in the



Past players remember past glories.

party mood, and seemed determined from the first whistle to wreck manager Bryn Jones' hopes of signing off at Victoria Road with a Northern Premier League victory.

Oswestry went down in a 2-1 home defeat. Despite the result, home supporters lined the entrance to the dress-

ing rooms to cheer their side for the last time. Some sought more tangible mementoes of the ground before the bulldozers moved in ready for the site to be redeveloped as a housing estate. Many cut a slice of the hallowed turf.

Our second picture this week captures some rather brighter days at the ground



Let there be light – the historic first floodlit match.

– indeed, a historic occasion, when Oswestry Town played their first floodlit match.

## Injury

The lights had cost £5,000 and 1,271 fans turned up to see the encounter against Ormskirk. Oswestry won the

match 2-1 but sadly the shine was taken off things by a serious injury to Ormskirk striker Mick Telfer, who suffered a broken right leg in a collision with Bob Davies eight minutes before half time.

Were YOU there at either of these historic occasions? Why not drop us a line and share your memories?

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## ARTS



## High note for choristers at top summer school

NINE CHORISTERS from St Oswald's Parish Church in Oswestry and three from St Chad's in Shrewsbury have taken part in an annual international summer school.

There were 107 young people aged between 10 and 24 from all over the world in Bath for the Royal School of Church Music's annual summer school.

The choristers received a week of intensive choral training and voice coaching and then performed at the weekend services in Bath Abbey.

Mike Donkin, choir director of St Oswald's said: "This course is a keystone in our choir training calendar. The young people work really hard but have a great time."

## Art contest exhibits go on show at gallery

ENTRIES FOR the open art exhibition go on display in an exhibition at Qube Gallery in Oswestry tomorrow, Friday.

Visitors will get the chance to vote for their favourite piece at the gallery in the People's Choice prize with voting taking place until September 15.

The People's Choice prize will be announced at Qube's re-launch evening on September 15 with a cash prize of £1,000, donated by Aico of Oswestry, awarded to the winner.

The Qube Open Exhibition has attracted artists' work from across Shropshire and the borders and as far as the Isle of Wight.

"Visitors will find a wide range of artwork on display at the exhibition and we are looking forward to people coming in and voting for their favourite piece for the People's Choice prize," said Lindy Parkinson, arts co-ordinator at Qube.

The Qube Open Art Exhibition runs from September 2 to October 4.



Charlotte Jackson, from The Qube, with one of the entries called 'Untouchable', which will feature in the exhibition.  
Picture: Rose Pearce

## History of town silver screened

A SHORT film highlighting the historical importance of items in the Oswestry Town Council silver collection is to be shown at the Attfield Theatre.

The free screening, on September 10, will be part of the Oswestry National Heritage open day events.

Presented by James Bond of Radio Shropshire, with contributions from town clerk David Preston and local historians John Pryce-Jones and Mary McKenzie, the film highlights the valuable and historic range of items that have been presented to the town from the 1700s onwards.

The film will be introduced by the mayor of Oswestry, Councillor Cynthia Hawksley.

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# THE ARTS

Tel: 01691 668094

## Blues to hit area with musicians performing

### GIG GUIDE

with Chrissy Symmons

**MUSICIANS FROM across the country will be arriving in the area to provide this week's musical entertainment.**

The Lowerfield Inn, in Marton, near Welshpool, will be playing host to Chris Quinn tomorrow, Friday.

Chris is described as "an extremely talented guitarist and accomplished vocalist". He plays his own music which is a brand of contemporary folk, country, swing and blues.

Reviews show he always delivers a polished performance when playing to crowds.

### Blues

He is often seen playing as part of a duo called Hickman and Quinn.

The night starts at 8.30pm and is free.

A little country blues will be brought to Oswestry on Friday night at the Ironworks, in Church Street, with Goat Roper Rodeo Band.

The trio will be hitting the stage at 9pm for the event. They will be creating a sound that has been described as country blues and good time rock 'n' roll.

The group are said to have influences in Dylan, Stones, Crowes and others.

On Saturday the venue will then welcome Stone Cold Mary to its stage. The band members will play a number



Sean Taylor who will be performing at The Ironworks.

of blues-influenced songs. The four-piece come from Banbury in Oxfordshire and are influenced by a number of different musical groups. The list includes a mix of Muddy Waters, Rolling Stones, Howlin' Wolf and Sonny Boy Williams.

### Pumping

They perform mainly blues covers but also have some of their own songs too.

They say they can't wait to start pumping them out at The Ironworks. The night will be free to attend.

Sean Taylor, pictured, is due to arrive at the Oswestry venue on Tues-

day to play from 7pm. The singer, songwriter is based in Kilburn. In 2009 he released *Calcutta Grove* which received top reviews from across the globe.

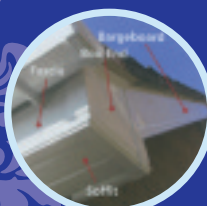
He was invited to take part in the Cambridge Folk Festival last year and was booked onto the main acoustic stage at Glastonbury Festival.

Here he played to more than three thousand people and also sold out of the stock of CDs he took with him in minutes.

If you would like to see your event in the gig guide please e-mail cymmons@shropshirestar with "gig guide" in the subject line.

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## FEATURES

Tel: 01691 668094

# An oddly familiar sight at African waterhole...

## ON THE WILD SIDE

with Ben Waddams



AFTER the height of summer has passed in August, September can be seen as a transitional period between summer and autumn, green and brown, hot and cool.

However it is also the time of the year when some of the cash-conscious of us, go on holiday. I recently used this time period to travel to a region in southern Africa known as the Gates of Hell.

This may sound less than inviting to many, myself included, but where disturbing names have persisted in strange and bizarre lands, one is sure to find interesting things. The area has a more common title and one that many will have heard of; the Skeleton Coast. I had spent a summer enjoying the wildlife of the UK and was excited to see the animals that frequent this region. Just inland we had seen the usual "big game", amongst them the ever overbearing giraffes, riding high and mighty atop their towering neck vertebrae.

However when two of them crossed a waterhole in front of us, there was something oddly familiar about the scene. It took a while for me to place it, but I suddenly realised what it was - British garden birds. There were swallows and swifts darting and weaving around the long legged beauties as well as the trilling call of a willow warbler.

I had been watching and listening to these birds merely a week earlier and here they were in one of the furthest places on Earth away from Shrewsbury with barely a feather out of place. Quite remarkable. What makes it more so, is that many of the warblers that migrate down from Britain to Africa, do so in one fell swoop, literally flying non-stop for four or five days.

If they do make stops, as swallows and house martins do, they will fly during the



The Overseers by Ben Waddams

night and feed and rest during the daytime.

The air is also cooler and denser at night, bringing with it less risk of dehydration, less energy consumption in order to provide lift and less turbulence to be encountered. Other birds fly at very high altitude for a similar effect. Airline pilots have observed whooper swans at altitudes of 8,850 metres (29,000 feet).

So there I was watching the same scene as I had the week before, just with a few giraffes thrown in for good measure. As we travelled down "the Land God made in Anger" (bushman name for the Skeleton Coast) I happened upon more familiar sights. Reaching the sea, I was able to indulge in a childhood passion - rock-pooling.

Back in Britain, this is a great time to search along the foreshore, and investigate rock pools for goby fish, shrimps, crabs, sea anemones, snails and shellfish.

However some of my best finds came on the tide-line. Interesting mermaid's purses (the egg-cases from sharks and rays), perfect seashells, dog whelk eggs, cuttlefish remains, fossils and the occasional peculiar bone from a bass or a dog-fish.

Down on the Skeleton Coast, the name says it all.

In addition to all the above, I was intrigued to find seal shoulder blades, shark skin and giant whale bones. Above the tide line I had to keep my eyes peeled for venomous snakes and lions.

Wherever you are, the sea and its shore can be a wild, barren, harsh and unforgiving land; but it can also be a supremely beautiful one.

Ben Waddams is a wildlife artist. His work is available from the Art Framing Gallery and now at Gallery SCA, Shrewsbury. Alternatively, visit [www.waddams.webs.com](http://www.waddams.webs.com) for more.



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*Beyonce - Best thing I Never Had.*

*Scouting For Girls - Love How it Hurts.*

*JLS - She Makes Me Wanna.*

*Christina Perrie - Jar Of Hearts.*

*Melanie C - Think About It.*

*One Direction - What Makes You.*

*Maroon 5 featuring Christina Aguilera - Moves Like Jagger.*

*Pixie Lott - All About Tonight*

*J Lo - I'm Into You*

*Katy Perry - Last Friday Night*

## Traffic news

### Oswestry

Old Fort Road, Oswestry, closed between the Caer Road junction and the Liverpool Road junction, because of water main work.

Diversion in operation - Lloyd Street and Caer Road.

### Welshpool

Temporary traffic lights and roadworks on A458 in Foel around the B4395 junction.

**THIS week on the breakfast show we have been reliving a very busy summer holidays and asking listeners to share their adventures with the rest of Shropshire. Sounds like a pretty eventful summer for most of although a little bit overcast.**

So, the big question - are the kids looking forward to the next few weeks back at school? If it is any consolation, I am also heading back to college to do my teaching duties so I too am not happy about bringing work home again.

### Camping

Thank you to the folks at Walford and North Shropshire College in Oswestry who gave me a little tour the other day as they prepared for the intake of around 2,000 students for this year's courses. I hope the enrolment is going smoothly for everybody involved.

We gave away several passes to the Shrewsbury Fields Forever Festival this week, including some camping and VIP tickets. Congratulations to everybody that won, I am sure you'll have a great time. We also gave away a £50 voucher for Peepo Pizza in Bridgnorth and the usual flowers and cakes to top off the show.

In local news; Oswestry Talking Newspaper is a registered charity which provides an audio version of local news and information taken from the local newspapers.

Anyone who is registered blind or visually impaired can get it.

To request an application form call Andrew or Helen on Oswestry 671766.

Remember, if you are a local group or are holding an event and would like myself or The Severn Team to get involved then drop me an e-mail with all the information and we'll try and give you a mention during the breakfast show. I will do my best to attend; e-mail me [neil.bentley@thesevern.co.uk](mailto:neil.bentley@thesevern.co.uk). You can always contact the studio by phone on 0333 456 0777.

We are still looking for couples to take part in our Bride Wars competition later this month.

If you are engaged or maybe just thinking about it, why don't you enter via our website with the chance to win your entire wedding on us? Check out our website for details of our sponsors and the amazing prizes up for grabs.

You have a short amount of time still to enter. The top three couples chosen will be battling it out against me and the breakfast team to win the wedding.

The Neil Bentley Breakfast Show is on weekdays from 6am on 106.5, 107.1 and 107.4fm The Severn. Follow us on Twitter @thesevern or listen online at [www.the-severn.co.uk](http://www.the-severn.co.uk)

## Farm machinery auction

FARM MACHINERY and tractors together with 80 cattle were going under the hammer at a Welshampton farm today, Thursday.

The auction at Rowe Farm, Rowe Lane, Welshampton, near Ellesmere is being conducted by auctioneers Halls on behalf of Mrs Elizabeth Marsh, who is selling the farm following the death of her husband, Howard.

Halls confirmed that the farm, which was on the market at £1.25 million, has been sold subject to contract.

The Marsh family has owned Rowe Farm for more than 45 years and the late Mr Marsh was well known for his steel fabrication skills, which enabled him to make and adapt machinery and equipment.

The tractors on offer include a Ford 4000, a Ford 7810 and a Ford 7840 with a Chilton

loader. There are also 11 trailers, a Welgar AP 630 baler, a Taarup Kverneland feeder wagon, a Kuhn FC 300g mower/conditioner, a Kuhn power tiller and a Marshall 90 muck spreader.

Additional machinery included in the auction from other vendors include a Pottinger MEX VI Forage Harvester, a Massey Ferguson 30 drill, an Iveco Ford two axle rigid body flat lorry, a West 1600 Slurry King muck spreader, a Twoose heavy duty cultivator and an International 16 spout corn drill on transporter.

The cattle in the auction comprise 20 homebred British Friesian heifers in calf to pedigree Hereford and Aberdeen Angus bulls and 60 genuine store cattle ranging from five to 26-months-old.

The auction begins at 10.30am.

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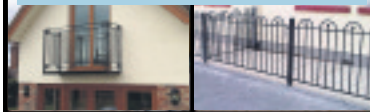
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# Second generation Picanto Kia reveals a new-found maturity

**DRIVE TIME**  
with Graham Breeze



**THE SECOND generation Picanto is Kia's evidence that small cars can offer more of everything without ballooning in either size or cost.**

Kia's smallest car hit the showrooms in June in five door format and a three door version will arrive in the UK this week.

I have been putting the five door model through its paces and found it had stronger performance with lower fuel consumption and CO2 emissions than its predecessor.

The test was timely with the car being awarded four stars in Euro NCAP latest test results last week.

It also offers more style and higher quality, without a premium price tag and has more space than its older brother, despite barely increasing in size.

## Outstanding

The Picanto went on sale with brand-new 1.0- and 1.25-litre Kappa-family petrol engines, which deliver fuel consumption improvements of up to 8.5mpg with CO2 reductions of as much as 15g/km – yet in every respect performance is significantly better.

The larger engine is available with Kia's eco-dynamics fuel-saving technology – an intelligent stop & go (ISG) engine stop/start system, or, alternatively with an automatic transmission. The test car was fitted with the three-cylinder 1.0-litre unit which develops 68bhp and 95Nm of torque and has an outstanding combined fuel economy of 67.3mpg.

The 1.25-litre four-cylinder version of the Kappa engine is offered in three guises, all developing 84bhp and 121Nm of torque. In standard form it averages 60.1mpg.



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The Kia Picanto five-door went on sale with four trim grades, badged 1, 1 Air, 2 and 3. And as buyers have come to expect from Kia, there has been no skimping on the specification.

Standard features include body coloured bumpers, mirrors and door handles, electric front windows, radio/CD player, trip computer and an immobiliser.

A height-adjustable driver's seat and tilt-adjustable steering column provide driver comfort whilst all occupants are protected by a total of six airbags. A 60:40 split folding rear seat allows rear luggage space to grow up to 870 litres (VDA).

Rear wheel arches cause restrictions to boot space though and the '2' on test certainly didn't pass the golf club test until the rear seats were folded down. Picanto 2 adds additional equipment typically seen on cars from the B-segment and above such as Bluetooth connec-

tivity, with voice recognition and full iPod control with USB & AUX ports – both of which can be operated by the steering-wheel controls.

There's also electrically operated, heated and folding door mirrors with integrated LED side repeaters.

## Unexpected

Air conditioning, rear electric windows, 14" alloy wheels, front fog lights, a leather steering wheel and gear lever, an alarm system, premium black upholstery and chrome exterior detailing complete the comprehensive spec package give the Picanto an unexpected quality feel. As with all new Kias, a seven year or 100,000 miles fully transferable warranty is standard.

Where the previous model was regarded as 'cute' and 'feminine', the new model has muscular wheel arches, low and wide rocker panels and wide-set alloy wheels on the two upper trim levels. The three-door model will have a unique C-pillar, bumpers, grille and exhaust to give it a subtly sportier look.

The Picanto's new-found maturity is reflected in the interior design and the choice of sophisticated trim materials, which set a new benchmark in the A-sector for quality.

While the controls are easy to get used to the cabin is a little on the sparse side.

The new Picanto is only 60mm longer than its predecessor, it still occupies slightly less than 3.6 metres of road space, but an increase of 15mm in wheelbase allied to clever packaging ideas have resulted in significantly more cabin space and the seating position is good.

The new Picanto comes with revised running gear. Featuring MacPherson struts at the front and a coupled torsion beam axle at the rear, a layout which gives the best combination of ride and handling while minimising intrusions into passenger and luggage space.

The front suspension helps towards improved straight line stability, while longer wheel travel and softer springs give a suppler ride. The rear axle is stiffer in the new Picanto to improve agility. Stability and ride comfort also benefit.

The steering system features Kia's acclaimed motor-driven power steering (MDPS). This delivers the twin benefits of reduced fuel consumption by drawing on engine power only when needed while reducing the driver effort needed for parking and manoeuvring.

This car is a world away from the Picanto that arrived on the UK scene seven years ago and well worth a look. You'll be disappointed if it's performance you are looking for but very impressed if looking for a town car.



## Nuts and bolts

Kia Picanto 1.0 Petrol '2'

Price: £9,595

Engine: 998cc

Performance: 0-60mph in 13.9 seconds

Top speed: 95mph

CO2 emissions: 99 g/km

Combined fuel: 67.3mpg

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Fiat, the car brand with the lowest average CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in Europe. Fuel consumption figures for the Fiat Panda Active 1.2 8v mpg (l/100km) and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions: Urban 44.1 (6.4), Extra Urban 70.6 (4.0), Combined 57.6 (4.9), CO<sub>2</sub> emissions 113 g/km. Not available in conjunction with any other offer. Prices correct at time of printing. Offer may be varied and withdrawn at any time. Subject to availability. Source: JATO Dynamics. Based on Volume-weighted average CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (g/km) of the best selling brands in Europe, year 2010. Vehicle shown for illustration purposes only.



# New Jaguar is a bit of an animal

**WHEN most people talk about the Jaguar brand, it's the refinement and luxury attributes that receive the most praise.**

Over the years the company has also made a good living from its sports cars – how could you possibly forget the iconic E-Type?

More recently Jaguar has combined the best of both worlds – refinement and performance – with considerable success.

Its range of 'R' high-power models have hit the spot with buyers seeking supercar-rivalling abilities and the firm's trademark luxury – for when chasing Porsche 911s isn't part of the daily routine.

The 911 reference isn't a random one. For some people cars like this have more of an 'edge' than, say, Jaguar's XKR.

Firmer riding and with a snappier throttle response, cars like the 911 are more likely to be seen at track days and, generally, driven harder by their owners.

Jaguar has decided that it wants some of this action, and has developed a harder, faster, more powerful XKR.

In XKR-S trim, Jaguar's normally sleek and demure coupe is visibly more purposeful-looking thanks to a number of aerodynamic aids.

It also sits a bit lower, while the bonnet vents and large wheels add the appropriate finishing touches.

Inside, the car's cabin ambience has also been ramped up, with the racing-style front seats a world away from Jaguar's standard issue cossetting chairs.

It's clear from the changes that Jaguar is keen for this car to have a higher profile, be it to attract younger buyers or simply better promote the car's abilities.

And there's no better way of doing that than making it a loud car.

Once you hit the starter button, it's clear that Jaguar's 'softly-softly' approach to performance motoring has been set aside for the XKR-S. After all, you can't expect to buy a beefy-looking car like this and drive around unnoticed.

You won't be hanging about at the traffic lights, either. The regular XKR is no slouch, but with an extra 40 horsepower, the XKR-S has 550 horsepower on tap – a figure that exceeds close rivals from Porsche and Aston Martin. As a result, the zero to 62mph time takes a rapid 4.4 seconds.

## Potential

For all the car's straight-line speed – and there's plenty of it – it's the car's exhaust note that is the biggest clue as to its potential.

The uncompromising blare from the quad pipes on start-up and general urgency in a muffled Nascar racer way is hard to ignore.

Factor in a range of carefully selected suspension upgrades to boost driver feedback and the car's agility on the open road, plus tweaks to the car's transmission and exhaust system, and you can guess what sort of experience it delivers.

Behind the wheel the difference between XKR and XKR-S is like night and day. The old 'velvet punch' analogy is a perfect fit for the former, but references to sledgehammers

would not be out of place when talking about the latter.

The way the XKR-S can propel you up the road is nothing short of astounding. Jaguar's 5.0-litre V8 was always good enough and now its true potential and character has been revealed. It's fair to say that it's a bit of an animal.

One that is easily tamed, though, which is good news for when you don't want to set any unofficial land speed records.

On twisty road sections the engine and suspension



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combination works well and there's a noticeable improvement in the feedback department, all of which boosts driver confidence and allows you to lean that bit harder on the car through the bends.

The lower ride height has removed the XKR's aloof character, although Jaguar's suspension biffins have somehow managed to maintain some semblance of a compliant ride – a necessity given the state of many UK roads.

You'd be forgiven for thinking that the XKR-S is all engine and nothing else. Far from it, but the changes to the V8 motor have done wonders for the XKR's character and highlighted its considerable depth of ability.

As a complete package – styling, aero mods, suspension tweaks – the XKR-S is a significant step up in terms of attitude and performance from the donor XKR.

To call it Jaguar's GT3 is a mistake, though. Whereas Porsche actively encourages buyers of its loud and proud monster 911 to seek out track days and generally drive it hard 24-7, the XKR-S boasts larger reserves of refinement for everyday driving duties.

And this is where the XKR-S will score over the 911 for many buyers, as this is a car that stays true to Jaguar's core values yet at the same time delivers a mind-altering experience when you're in the mood and the conditions are right.

Iain Dooley



## Nuts and bolts

Jaguar XKR-S

Price: From £97,000 on the road

Engine: 5.0-litre petrol unit developing 550bhp

Transmission: Six-speed automatic transmission as standard, driving the rear wheels

Performance: Maximum speed 186mph, 0-62mph 4.4 seconds

Economy: 23.0mpg

CO2 Rating: 292g/km





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Fuel economy figures for the NOTE 1.4 n-tec 5 DOOR mpg (L/100km). Urban - 39.2 (7.2), Extra Urban - 54.3 (5.2), Combined - 47.9 (5.9). CO2 emissions 139 g/km. NEW MICRA 1.2 ACENTA 5 DOOR Urban - 46.3 (6.1), Extra Urban - 65.7 (4.3), Combined - 56.5 (5.0). CO2 emissions 115 g/km. JUKE 1.6 VISIA 5 DOOR Urban - 34.9 (8.1), Extra Urban - 53.3 (5.3), Combined - 44.8 (6.3). CO2 emissions 147 g/km.

Offers valid until 30 September 2011 at participating dealers only. 13 years free servicing available on new Micra and NOTE and only on other models when funded through Nissan Finance's Preferences or Lease finance agreements. \*Price includes cash saving. Model shown is NOTE 1.4 n-tec priced £13,400 on the road plus optional metallic paint at £420 incl. VAT. Micra shown has optional metallic paint at £420 incl. VAT. Juke shown has optional metallic paint at £455 incl. VAT. Guarantees and indemnities may be required. You must be at least 18 and a UK resident (excluding Isle of Man and Channel Islands) to apply. Finance provided by RCI Financial Services Limited, PO Box 149, Watford WD17 1FJ. At participating dealers only. Not available in conjunction with any schemes or other offers, please visit www.nissan-offers.co.uk or your local dealer for information. Breakdown services provided by RAC Motoring Services and/or RAC Insurance Ltd. All prices include first registration fee and road fund licence. Information correct at time of going to print. Model shot is for illustration purposes only. Model subject to availability. Nissan Motor (GB) Ltd, The Rivers Office Park, Denham Way, Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire WD3 9YS.

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| KUGA TITANIUM X-PACK, AWD Full Spec, '11' .....              | £26,999             |
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| RANGER THUNDER SILVER '11' .....                             | £16,699 + VAT + OTR |
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CUSTOMERS buying new 61-plate MG6 GT and MG6 Magnette models will get more for their money thanks to a new offer.

MG Motor UK is introducing a three-year fixed price servicing cover for £199 on all new MG6 models sold during the new 61-plate month of September.

The latest MGs also benefit from low insurance group ratings of 13E, and 14E on top TSE models, which reduce premiums for most drivers.

The MG6 GT in TSE specification includes a comprehensive list of standard equipment including 18-inch alloy wheels, cruise control,

iTPMS tyre pressure monitoring, leather sports seats, rear-view parking camera with front and rear reversing aids, driver and front passenger electric seat adjustment, heated front seats, automatic dual-zone air conditioning, electronic rain sensing wipers, a built-in full colour display sat-nav system with full European mapping, RDS radio, CD player, MP3, USB, Aux-in capability and Bluetooth mobile phone integration.

MG6 GT fastback range starts at £15,459 for the S model, £16,995 for the SE and £18,995 for the TSE.

MG6 Magnette four-door sports saloons range from £15,995 for the S, £17,495 for the SE and £19,995 for the TSE.

• A Skoda Octavia vRS has become the fastest 2.0-litre production car in the world after reaching an official 227.070mph at the Bonneville Salt Flats in Utah.

That figure, achieved by averaging two runs as the rules require, is a new record, smashing the previous best of 216mph.

The peak speed recorded by the car was on the return leg, when the specially prepared 'salt spec' Octavia hit 228.647mph. The previous record had stood since 1998, but a series of tweaks to the surprisingly standard Octavia set a new benchmark.

The 2.0-litre TSI petrol engine, used for all the Octavia's top speed runs, had a new, larger turbocharger as well as stronger controls and key load-bearing elements in the engine.

However, the pistons, valves, gaskets and almost all other components were standard, simply using a more explosive type of racing fuel.

Speed record regulations state that for a car to still be considered a 'production car', only certain modifications can be made. Even so, with the larger turbo providing much more boost than standard, the final, record-breaking run was achieved with the car putting almost 600bhp through the front tyres - three times what the street-ready Octavia vRS has.

Robert Hazelwood, director for Skoda UK, said: "This is a truly stunning achievement. Our goal was to break 200mph as a celebration of 10 years of vRS, and we have achieved that, and significantly more. The success is a tribute to everyone who has worked so tirelessly and with such passion to make Skoda a world beater."



The Hyundai i20 Blue.

• An impressive list of standard equipment is one of the highlights of the new Fiat Bravo MyLife, the latest car to be included in the Italian carmaker's feature model collection of well-equipped, high-value models.

Based on the Active trim, the new Bravo MyLife is powered by Fiat's MultiJet 105bhp diesel engine.

The list of equipment includes 16-inch alloy wheels, Blue&Me entertainment and communication system, leather steering wheel with audio controls, ESP stability control, air conditioning, electric front windows and driver, passenger and side airbags.

Commenting on the new addition to the Bravo range, Fiat's Elena Bernardelli said: "We're pleased to bring Bravo into the MyLife model strategy which offers customers the best value proposition within the core segment of each model range."

"MyLife focuses on style and technology while at the same time offering a proposition that represents sheer

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value for money. I am sure this will be of interest to many new and existing Fiat customers."

Prices for the Bravo 1.6 16v MultiJet 105 MyLife start from £17,500 on the road.

• The new Hyundai i20 Blue has joined the ever-growing ranks of tax-evading cars, with a CO2 output of just 98g/km being the lowest of any car the company makes.

The efficient 1.4-litre diesel engine means that the i20 qualifies for free entry into the London congestion charging zone, and is completely exempt from road tax for the foreseeable future.

The i20 Blue is effectively an entirely new variant, taking the 89bhp, 111g/km 1.4 CDTi engine from the diesel

i20 Style and mating it to the Comfort trim level, usually only available with a 74bhp version of the same 1.4 diesel.

Standard equipment on the i20 Blue includes 15-inch alloy wheels, Bluetooth connectivity with voice recognition, electric and heated door mirrors, electric windows all round, air conditioning, central locking and steering wheel audio controls.

The i20 Blue follows the i10 Blue, which was released earlier this year.

Market trends show that there is a growing market for more economical versions of popular models, and the i20 certainly boasts numbers to tempt buyers.

It's on sale now at an on-the-road price of £13,195.



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## VOLVO C70

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## VOLVO S40

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| 08 Volvo S40 1.8 S 5 Speed Manual, Brilliant Blue, 29,975 miles | £8,495  |
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## VOLVO V50

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| 07 Volvo V50 1.8i S 5 Speed Manual, Flint Grey, 39,400 miles       | £8,895  |
| 08 Volvo V50 1.8i S 5 Speed Manual, Orinoco Blue, 40,150 miles     | £8,995  |
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## PLACINGS

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| Division      | P  | W  | L  | A | Pts |
|---------------|----|----|----|---|-----|
| Wroxeter II   | 18 | 10 | 2  | 0 | 332 |
| Frankton II   | 18 | 11 | 1  | 0 | 328 |
| Alberbury     | 18 | 11 | 4  | 0 | 307 |
| Countdown     | 18 | 10 | 4  | 1 | 305 |
| Fornton       | 18 | 8  | 5  | 1 | 282 |
| Knockin       | 18 | 8  | 5  | 3 | 282 |
| Lliffelshall  | 18 | 4  | 8  | 0 | 222 |
| Montgomery II | 18 | 6  | 8  | 1 | 220 |
| Welshpool     | 18 | 5  | 7  | 2 | 203 |
| Condover      | 18 | 5  | 7  | 1 | 196 |
| Llanidloes II | 18 | 2  | 11 | 0 | 173 |
| Llanidloes I  | 18 | 1  | 10 | 1 | 95  |

| Division 2      | P  | W  | L  | A | Pts |
|-----------------|----|----|----|---|-----|
| Ellesmere       | 18 | 11 | 2  | 0 | 297 |
| Market Drayton  | 18 | 10 | 3  | 0 | 290 |
| Bishops Castle  | 18 | 10 | 6  | 0 | 278 |
| Tibberton       | 18 | 8  | 4  | 1 | 271 |
| Iscoyd Fenns    | 18 | 7  | 5  | 0 | 238 |
| Cae Glas        | 18 | 7  | 7  | 0 | 209 |
| Wellington III  | 18 | 5  | 10 | 0 | 209 |
| Lliffelshall II | 18 | 5  | 8  | 0 | 204 |
| Willey          | 18 | 5  | 8  | 1 | 204 |
| Frankton II     | 18 | 3  | 7  | 1 | 201 |
| Acton Reynald   | 18 | 3  | 11 | 0 | 188 |
| Church Stretton | 18 | 2  | 11 | 1 | 128 |

| Division 3     | P  | W  | L  | A | Pts |
|----------------|----|----|----|---|-----|
| Corvedale      | 18 | 14 | 2  | 0 | 344 |
| Whittington    | 18 | 11 | 1  | 0 | 341 |
| Wheaton Aston  | 18 | 9  | 2  | 1 | 294 |
| Beacon II      | 18 | 8  | 5  | 1 | 285 |
| Shifnal III    | 18 | 7  | 5  | 1 | 271 |
| Chelmarsh      | 18 | 9  | 4  | 1 | 262 |
| Cound II       | 18 | 5  | 0  | 2 | 221 |
| Pontesbury II  | 18 | 4  | 5  | 1 | 191 |
| Shrewsbury III | 18 | 5  | 9  | 1 | 177 |
| Trysil         | 18 | 3  | 11 | 0 | 155 |
| St Georges III | 18 | 1  | 14 | 0 | 118 |
| Whitchurch III | 18 | 1  | 13 | 0 | 107 |

| Division 4    | P  | W  | L  | A | Pts |
|---------------|----|----|----|---|-----|
| Wroxeter II   | 18 | 9  | 3  | 0 | 298 |
| Grove         | 18 | 11 | 4  | 0 | 290 |
| Church Aston  | 18 | 10 | 4  | 0 | 278 |
| Knockin II    | 18 | 9  | 5  | 0 | 268 |
| Oswestry III  | 18 | 8  | 5  | 1 | 268 |
| Calverhall    | 18 | 8  | 6  | 7 | 257 |
| Wellington IV | 18 | 5  | 7  | 2 | 224 |
| Alberbury II  | 18 | 4  | 9  | 0 | 197 |
| Harcourt      | 18 | 7  | 7  | 1 | 191 |
| Hodnet        | 17 | 5  | 7  | 2 | 191 |
| Montgomery II | 17 | 5  | 7  | 0 | 185 |
| Hinstock      | 18 | 2  | 15 | 0 | 114 |

| Division 5        | P  | W  | L  | A | Pts |
|-------------------|----|----|----|---|-----|
| Newport III       | 18 | 10 | 4  | 0 | 290 |
| Welshpool II      | 18 | 8  | 2  | 1 | 290 |
| Bridgnorth III    | 18 | 12 | 2  | 1 | 285 |
| Overton           | 18 | 6  | 5  | 2 | 244 |
| Condover II       | 18 | 8  | 5  | 1 | 234 |
| Gulfield          | 18 | 8  | 6  | 2 | 231 |
| Ludlow III        | 18 | 5  | 6  | 0 | 202 |
| Frankton III      | 18 | 6  | 10 | 0 | 186 |
| Market Drayton II | 18 | 6  | 10 | 1 | 176 |
| Hales             | 18 | 4  | 8  | 0 | 168 |
| Acton Reynald II  | 18 | 3  | 9  | 1 | 138 |
| Quayside          | 18 | 1  | 10 | 1 | 128 |

| Division 6        | P  | W  | L  | A | Pts |
|-------------------|----|----|----|---|-----|
| Wern III          | 18 | 10 | 3  | 0 | 298 |
| Fornton II        | 18 | 8  | 1  | 1 | 271 |
| Prees             | 18 | 6  | 4  | 1 | 266 |
| Cae Glas II       | 18 | 6  | 2  | 0 | 253 |
| Shifnal IV        | 18 | 8  | 6  | 0 | 250 |
| Much Wenlock III  | 18 | 10 | 1  | 1 | 218 |
| Tibberton II      | 18 | 5  | 9  | 0 | 202 |
| Welshpool III     | 18 | 4  | 5  | 0 | 188 |
| Worfield II       | 18 | 6  | 10 | 1 | 166 |
| Bomere Heath III  | 18 | 3  | 12 | 0 | 151 |
| Bishops Castle II | 18 | 3  | 10 | 1 | 145 |
| St Georges IV     | 18 | 1  | 13 | 1 | 91  |

| Division 7      | P  | W  | L  | A | Pts |
|-----------------|----|----|----|---|-----|
| Beacon II       | 18 | 11 | 2  | 1 | 325 |
| Willey II       | 18 | 8  | 2  | 1 | 291 |
| Knockin II      | 18 | 11 | 6  | 0 | 272 |
| Corvedale II    | 18 | 8  | 3  | 2 | 270 |
| Oswestry IV     | 18 | 9  | 5  | 2 | 256 |
| Lliffelshall II | 18 | 9  | 3  | 2 | 250 |
| Quatt III       | 18 | 7  | 4  | 1 | 229 |
| Ellesmere II    | 18 | 6  | 8  | 1 | 224 |
| Calverhall II   | 18 | 8  | 5  | 2 | 221 |
| Alberbury III   | 18 | 6  | 0  | 2 | 213 |
| Grove II        | 18 | 9  | 7  | 1 | 213 |
| Madeley III     | 18 | 5  | 6  | 2 | 197 |
| Wellington V    | 18 | 3  | 7  | 3 | 174 |
| Pontesbury III  | 18 | 3  | 8  | 2 | 155 |
| Allcock II      | 18 | 3  | 9  | 3 | 124 |
| Whittington II  | 18 | 4  | 8  | 2 | 99  |
| Whitchurch IV   | 18 | 2  | 9  | 3 | 74  |
| Llanidloes II   | 18 | 1  | 13 | 2 | 60  |

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FBC MANBY BOWLER  
LEAGUE

Division One: Alberbury v Cound, Fornton v Lliffelshall, Llanidloes v Knockin & Kinnerley, Montgomery v Frankton, Pontesbury v Condover, Welshpool v Wroxeter.

Division Two: Church Stretton v Cae Glas, Ellesmere v Iscoyd & Fenns Bank, Frankton II v Market Drayton, Lliffelshall II v Tibberton II, Wellington III v Acton Reynald, Willey v Bishop's Castle.

Division Three: Beacon v Welshpool II, Condover v Corvedale, Shifnal III v Pontesbury II, Shrewsbury III v Whittington II, Trysil & Seisdon v St Georges III, Wheaton Aston v Chelmarsh.

Division Four: Calverhall v Montgomery II, Church Aston v Hinstock, Grove v Hodnet, Harcourt v Alberbury II, Kinnerley II v Oswestry II, Wroxeter II v Wellington IV.

Division Five: Acton Reynald II v Newport III, Bridgnorth III v Ludlow III, Frankton III v Overton, Gulfield v Quayside, Market Drayton II v Hales.

Division Six: Bishop's Castle II v Prees, Cae Glas II v Bomere Heath III, St Georges IV v Fornton II, Tibberton II v Much Wenlock III, Wern III v Shifnal IV, Worfield II v Welshpool III.

Division Seven: Alberbury III v Willey II, Beacon II v Madeley III, Corvedale II v Pontesbury II, Lliffelshall III v Allcock II, Oswestry IV v Ellesmere II, Quatt III v Llanidloes II, Wellington V v Grove II, Whitchurch IV v Knockin & Kinnerley, Whittington II v Calverhall II.

MARSTONS  
SHROPSHIRE LEAGUE

Albington v Ludlow, Broseley v Welshpool, Newchurch v Bomere Heath, Newtown Allscott, Quatt v Shelton, Reman Services v Madeley, Wem v Newport.

## Magical Da Silva ton ignites Frankton's championship charge

FRANKTON closed the gap on division one leaders Wroxeter to just three points with a hard fought victory at home to Pontesbury.

Winning the toss skipper Jordan Parry chose to get runs on the board and bat first.

Runs were extremely difficult to come by as the Pontesbury bowlers found all of the demons in the pitch as they restricted the home side.

There was only one man who really got to grips with the pitch and the bowling and that was overseas ace Nalaka Da Silva who hit

his fourth ton of the season, not the most eye-catching but possibly the most important he has scored to date.

Da Silva departed in the final over for a superb 103, the home side's innings closing on 162.

Pontesbury's batsmen had no answer to Frankton's seam attack and were soon in trouble as opening bowlers Ed Whyte and Sam Phillips took full advantage of the bowler friendly conditions.

Whyte finishing with 5-45 and Phillips 3-20, there was also two

wickets for Stu Lammie as Pontesbury were bowled out for just 129, extras top scoring with 38 as Frankton sealed a 33 run success and 24 points.

Frankton III produced another good display against Market Drayton II to record a third successive victory.

Skipper Scott Evans lost the toss and the team were asked to bat first on a partially damp wicket as overnight rain had leaked under the cover.

The Frankton top order all got good starts but only Danny Evans

managed to convert it into a 50. Evans bludgeoned 62 in quick time including nine fours and two sixes.

Down the order Ash Wynn made 21 but a flurry of late wickets as the tail went for some quick runs meant the home side were bowled out in the final over for 152.

The Drayton reply started watchfully as the Frankton opening bowlers got to work.

Tom Cockayne (2-24) started a collapse of wickets as he picked up two in the same over including an

excellent catch by back up first skip James Ellis.

Skipper Scott Evans continued his recent good form to claim 3-36 and at 60-5 the win was there to be taken.

Phil Curzon returning after a two month mid season rest claimed 3-20 and it was up Jack Kelly (2-24) to finish off the innings as Drayton were skittled for 107 in the 32nd over, again extras being the top scorer with 27.

Frankton took 23 points from the 45-run victory.

## Monty slip to defeat but IIs in fine win

SKIPPER Neil Tuffin lost a crucial toss that set up a difficult first innings for Montgomery on a damp Lymore wicket at home to Forton.

Wickets fell at regular intervals and only Rob Kinsey with 15 reached double figures.

There was a belated rescue act by Tim Davies (19) and Rob Yewdall (11), but the innings was eventually over in the 35th over with Montgomery all out for 83.

Forton made quick work of reaching the total and they did so at the end of the 26th over, although they lost seven wickets.

The pick of the bowlers was Aaron Ruff-Cock whose four wickets for sixteen runs at one point gave the home side a glimmer of hope.

Skipper Neil Tuffin said: "We just didn't bat well enough and another 30 runs would have set up a challenging total."

Montgomery II were in action away at Hodnet & Peplow.

The game got away to a late start following a heavy shower of rain that saw the home side employing squeegees on the wicket when the visitors arrived. Skipper Jonathan Williams won the toss and predictably asked the home side to bat and he was rewarded as wickets fell at regular intervals.

Ping Mould's pacy and accurate bowling provided the cutting edge and he finished with four wickets as the innings ended in the thirty-fifth over with Hodnet on 103 all out.

Montgomery's reply was built around an accomplished and well paced innings by Adam Bowen.

Wickets fell at the other end with the best contributions coming from Caspar Mould and Charlie Clinton, but it was Adam's 45no that saw the team home in the 33rd over.

The victory enables the team to climb out of the relegation zone.

## Whitehouse leads from the front

A STRONG Welshpool II were in top form against Bishop's Castle but couldn't find the victory.

Captain Dave Whitehouse led the way with 68no as the team dominated the Castle attack.

Nick Davies was also in fine form hitting 64 in a total of 215 off 40 overs. Bishop's Castle's reply was creditable but the run rate was always well short of that required.

Despite Alan Williams taking 3-22 Welshpool's bowling attack was not able to penetrate the Castle batting. As Beacon were removed for just 77 inside 29 overs.

Whittington secured the maximum points haul with a 90 run victory.

Beacon bowlers to shine. In reply Whittington ripped the heart out of the Beacon top order, with Matty Williams 3-24 doing the damage.

Mike Dulton 2-18 and Neil Lawcock 2-1 completed the rout, supported by excellent ground fielding. Keeper Neil Dermody claimed four victims as Beacon were removed for just 77 inside 29 overs.

Whittington secured the maximum points haul with a 90 run victory.

For the second week in a row it was consistent tight bowling and some tremendous work in the field in support of their bowlers that kept the home side to their modest total.

Ian Holgate (2-35) and Andy Hughes (1-8) bowled well for Glas.

In reply, having struggled to establish partnerships throughout the first half of the season, it was the



Robbie Clarke gets some runs for Oswestry in their Shropshire derby with St Georges at Morda Road on Saturday.  
Pictures: Rose Pearce.

## Welshpool earn winning draw as IIs hit top spot

IT WAS nip and tuck all the way as Welshpool fought out a closely fought draw at relegation rivals Condover in the FBC Manby Bowlder Shropshire League division one.

With rain threatening throughout, the going was tough as Welshpool posted 136-9 in 40 overs but the Mid Wales men then restricted their hosts to 130-8 to ensure a winning draw.

The encounter was a close run affair with occasional interruptions of play combined with a slow, low wicket making scoring difficult.

Put in to bat, Pool hit trouble with wickets falling regularly. Jon Mansell taking 4-45, and found it hard to give their innings any rhythm.

Rob Birch, who misses tomorrow's clash with Wroxeter, top scored on 33 and Llyr Thomas chipped in 17. Eventually Welshpool reached 136-9 in the 40 overs which, in the circum-

## Williams inflicts the damage

SECOND placed Whittington continued their promotion charge with a comprehensive home victory over third placed Beacon on Saturday.

Whittington were invited to bat first in this 40 overs a side game. A solid start saw the total reach 100-2 at the halfway point with the loss of openers Hale 16 and Pugh 12.

Gareth Morris 39 and Jonny Mitchell 36 added what proved an excellent match winning third wicket partnership of 93.

Despite a late rally from Frankton counterpart Jake Northwood (24) and Tom Llewellyn (14), Frankton were eventually bowled out for 133, collecting just six points compared to 23 points for Glas.

Meanwhile Cae Glas II returned from Shifnal IV winners by two

wickets after a terrific all round performance.

On a pitch that gave little assistance to the bowlers, Shifnal batted first and amassed 173-3 from their 40 overs thanks in a large part to skipper David Brammer (72) and a succession of big hits in the final overs from Andy Patrick (69no).

For the second week in a row it was consistent tight bowling and some tremendous work in the field in support of their bowlers that kept the home side to their modest total.

Ian Holgate (2-35) and Andy Hughes (1-8) bowled well for Glas.

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CRICKET  
by John  
Bridgwater

Alex Huxley and Robbie Clarke cross for another single during Oswestry's clash with St Georges

## Oswestry still top despite setback

OSWESTRY II go into the last three games of the season with a 14-point lead at the top of their division - despite losing a real thriller against Lichfield at Morda Road on Monday.

Skipper Steve Humphreys and Callum Morris were out in successive balls for Oswestry after each had just reached his half-century, and the innings closed on 195-9.

Charlie Morris then bowled superbly to take 7-35, but Lichfield's last pair added 18 to see their side home at 197-9.

On Saturday, Oswestry II were always in command at St Georges, where they ran out winners by 152 runs. Peter Holloway (60), Alex Brindle (45) and Owen Johnson (37) were the chief contributors as Oswestry reached 221-9.

St Georges were then bowled out for just 69, with Ben Parker-Marshall taking 3-15. There were two wickets apiece for Josh Coleridge, Brindle, and Johnson.

Oswestry II suffered a seven-wicket defeat against Wroxeter Seconds in a crunch match in Division Four of the FBC Manby Bowlder League.

Dominic Bright continued in his rich vein of form with 47 as Oswestry made 152-4 in their 40 overs, with Dave Shaw hitting 38 and Adam Woodcock 24no.

But the experienced Paul Massey led Wroxeter to 154-3 in reply.

Oswestry IV were also beaten, going down by five wickets to Knockin Thirds.

Andrew Clarke top-scored with 38 in Oswestry's 139, and the only other players to reach double figures were Nick Woodcock (35) and James Bradbury (22). Barrie Hawkin was the pick of the Knockin bowlers with 4-31.

Alistair Dougan (55) and Gary Darlington (30) then steered Knockin to 142-5, with youngsters Owen Aspinall and Dominic Kular taking two wickets each.



## Foster's heroics earn Pool a point

A SUPER display from keeper Gary Foster earned Welshpool their first point in the Spar Mid Wales League division one with a 1-1 draw at Llansantffraid Village.

Foster pulled off several fine saves to deny Llansantffraid who have now picked up just two points from their first four games.

Ian Edmonds gave the villagers the lead from the penalty spot but Russell Teale levelled matters before the break.

Newly promoted Montgomery are proving an instant hit after moving top with a 4-2 win at Watelloo Rovers in another game that was watched by a crowd swelled by ground-hoppers.

Tom Evans bagged a brace, Ross Harris and Gary Bromley the others, with Steve Jones and Scott Holly keeping Rovers in the hunt.

But Clive McNamee's men had to battle for their third win when, 2-0 up at half time, they were begged back 2-2 in the second half, before emerging victors.

Rovers boss Dale Roberts was happy with what he saw of his charges, who produced an improved performance after a 1-0 loss to Dyffryn Banw a few days earlier.

"It was a very good game and we're back on track," he said.

In division two, Meifod - who are still on the lookout for a regular winner - crashed 8-3 at home to Four Crosses.

They led through Hayden Langford but found themselves 6-1 down at half time before Sam Jones netted a couple of consolation in the second half.

### Defeat

It was a busy weekend across the Bank Holiday and Berriew suffered a jolt in the Spar Mid Wales League division one when they slipped to a 3-1 home defeat against Llanelloes Town.

Both sides are expected to be in the title mix come the end of the season, and it was Llani who prevailed thanks to two first half strikes from Jamie Breese.

Breese also had a hand in No3 for the visitors when slipping the ball to Nefyn Savage, before Martyn Ziemann headed a late consolation.

Earlier action saw Watelloo Rovers suffer a surprise 1-0 loss to Dyffryn Banw which halted their three match losing start thanks to a first half penalty from James Turner.

Berriew were held 1-1 at Carno, despite taking the lead with a Mark Jones penalty five minutes before half time.

Carno came back in the second period, levelling through Greg Brown.

Llanfyllin hit Four Crosses for six in a second division game that saw the visitors reduced to nine players, including losing their goalkeeper.

For the home side, Steve Laws struck twice, including a penalty, while Mike Booth was also on the mark, his brace also including a spot kick. Paul Hughes (2) and Darren Jones responded.

In their next game, Llanfyllin earned a 3-3 home draw with Presteigne, with two goals from Lee Green and another from Ben Jones.

Elsewhere, Abermule crashed 5-2 at Aberdylf Llaniardid recorded a 3-2 verdict at Bont.

After their defeat against Llanelloes, Berriew will be out to bounce back on Saturday when they visit Newtown Wanderers 5-1 in the MP Foulkes Montgomeryshire Cup.

Andrew Edwards netted twice, while Rich Evans, James Whittaker and James Evans also found the net.

## Boss disappointed despite unbeaten run

HIS side may be unbeaten, but Morda United boss Craig Rogers was again left to lament a late sickener after being held 1-1 at home to Telford Juniors in the County League premier division.

The Weston Road men looked to have the points in their grasp through George Turner's first half strike, but were pegged back by a 25-yard strike in the last minute.

And Rogers knows his side, who host early table toppers Hodnet on Saturday, need to stop conceding late goals which have proved costly so far this season.

"We've conceded five goals this season and all have been in the last 15 minutes down to a lack of concentration and communication," he said.

"So far we've had two wins and two draws, but the draws should have been wins.

"People say we're going to do this and going to do that, but we've only been together less than eight weeks and it will take time.

"I'm confident we will click, but at this stage of the season it's nice to be unbeaten."

Turner continued his good start to

the campaign when netting on the half hour, the front runner nipping in to exploit some hesitation in the visiting defence from a Scott Graham through ball.

Morda felt they should have had a penalty in the second half but their claims that Gary Meredith had been pushed were turned down.

The Telford side then pushed, hit the woodwork, before earning a last-gasp point courtesy of a fine strike.

And it means Rogers will be even more keen for his side to take three points from a Hodnet side who have started the season in fine style.

"We'll certainly be looking for the win," he added.

It was better news for Morda Reserves on Saturday who enjoyed a fantastic 5-1 away victory over Abermule Reserves in Montgomeryshire League division two.

Striker Ollie Jackson netted a superb hat-trick while Jamie Mitchell found the net twice to seal victory.

The club's second string were back in action with a midweek home fixture against Four Crosses Reserves hoping to continue their recent fine form.



Goal - George Turner

# Boss sure side will be all White as batters prove another point

LLANRHAEDR boss Mario laquinta praised his side's character after staging a stirring comeback to earn a morale-boosting 3-3 Cymru Alliance draw with fancied Porthmadog.

And the manager believes it will be the league newcomers in good stead as they head to Ruthin Town on Saturday looking for their first win of the campaign.

In their first home outing, the villagers found themselves two goals down to strikes from Chris Williams (31) and Jamie McDaid (52) as Port dominated the first hour.

But the home side, roared on by a sizeable crowd, hit back as a well taken brace from Jamie Evans won 65 were 74 minutes levelled matters.

Although the visitors regained their lead through Gary Roberts (84), the hosts were not to be denied as Ben White's splendid last minute reply earned a deserved point.

The result followed the 1-1 draw at Montgomeryshire rivals Guilsfield a few days before, and put boss laquinta in good heart after a shaky start.

"At the start of the season, people would have looked at us as the whipping boys but drawing with one of the best sides in the league will make them sit up," he said.

"The lads were magnificent, the crowd got behind them, there was a great atmosphere and they responded really well.

"I could not have wished for any more against a side like Porthmadog who were the best we've played this season."

"The draw the game before against Guilsfield helped us, we showed a lot of belief even when we were 2-0 down and 3-2 down. There were some cool finishes, and it was a great effort to get a point."

Porthmadog were well worth their two goal lead, with Llannrhaedr struggling to find many openings and it needed a couple of fine saves from Darren Powell to deny the visitors further goals.

But the home side were galvanised after finding themselves two down.

It was Evans, in fine early season goalscoring form, who halved the deficit when he beat his marker and drilled a left footed effort into the net off the post.

And the same player levelled matters when he collected White's through ball and cheekily chipped in an equaliser from a tight angle.

And just when it looked like Llannrhaedr would go home empty handed after Roberts struck, White fashioned a chance out of nothing and planted his effort into the far corner to secure a valuable point.

Waterloo Reserves recorded their first win of the season in style with a 5-2 success at Berriew reserves, Sean Roberts striking twice with Rob Jones, Chris Lewis and Russell Broadhurst getting the others. Tristian Jackson and James Langford responded.

Llannrhaedr reserves lost 3-1 at Llanelloes reserves, Barry Morris replying, while Churchstoke lost 2-1 at Bettws, Adam Nottingham replying from the spot.

Trefonen are setting the pace at the top of the Mibushidivision two with an 11-1 romp at Kerry reserves, Lee Morris leading the charge with four of while John Beckett and Sam Jones both hit two.

Morda reserves' first win was a 5-1 verdict at Abermule reserves, while Four Crosses beat Llanfair reserves 2-1 through Mark Emberton and Gareth Jones.

Llangwylfan saw off Newtown Wanderers 5-1 in the MP Foulkes Montgomeryshire Cup.

Andrew Edwards netted twice, while Rich Evans, James Whittaker and James Evans also found the net.

## Return of key trio can help Guilsfield

GUILSFIELD hope the return of three key players can boost their fortunes in Saturday's home Cymru Alliance clash with Conwy United.

Last weekend's 2-1 loss at Flint Town United means the Guils have just one point to show from their first four outings.

But striker Danny Barton, goalkeeper Dave Littleford and Ian Probert should all be back to boost the ranks on Saturday.

Manager Russell Cadwallader, who had to play the last two matches in goal, knows his side need to get back on track after a disappointing start.

"We need a win but Conwy will be another tough one," he said.

"They're new to the league, but we have their first three games before losing to Cefn Druids last Saturday.

"We did not play particularly well last week, Flint were the better side, but still had our chances to have won it.

"We missed three good one-on-ones. Hopefully, having the three lads back will give us a lift."

Cadwallader was fearing the worst after being beaten after just a minute at Flint who capitalised as Phil Lloyd netted following a free kick.

But the visitors defended well after that, and had chances of their own with Will Thomas on goal a couple of times but to no avail.

A second Flint goal after the interval from Paul Williams left them with a big task, but the Guils stuck to their guns.

They carved a couple more opportunities, before Jonathan Jones netted a late reply from a Thomas cross.



Nicky Ward wheels away after netting for the Saints. Picture: www.saints-alive.co.uk

## TNS bring high-fliers down to earth to claim first victory

### The New Saints 2 Prestatyn 1

AFTER picking up just one point from their opening two games, The New Saints would have been relieved to notch their first victory of the campaign against the previously unbeaten Seaside at Park Hall, writes **JOHN BRIDGWATER**.

Matty Williams' third goal of the campaign put the Oswestry side on course for a vital three points in the Corbett Sports Welsh Premier with Nicky Ward making it two on the half hour with his first goal since his return to the club.

However, after looking in control with chances to add to the tally, the Saints were given a few anxious moments late on as former Welshpool midfielder Ross Stephens pulled one back for a battling Prestatyn outfit.

In the end, it was a job done as TNS finally got off the mark and can now head to Llanello for Saturday's televised clash in good heart.

Boss Mike Davies stressed it was too early for any panic measures beforehand as his side got to grips with the task against their plucky visitors.

Although Prestatyn posted the first effort of the night through Stephens, the Saints

took the initiative once Williams fired home a rebound on 15 minutes after a back-header by defender Chris Davies was spilled by keeper Dave Roberts.

The keeper atoned with two superb saves from Ward, but the front runner was not to be denied when Roberts could only parry a Craig Jones strike into his path after 30 minutes.

Chris Seargeant almost added another before half-time when his 25-yard shaved the post, while Roberts beat away a fierce Williams' drive just after the break and Ward went close to a second with a header from Simon Spenders' cross.

Greg Draper blazed over, but Williams missed a golden chance to add to his tally in the 68th minute when he dragged his shot wide with just the keeper to beat.

Prestatyn almost made the Saints pay for their missed chances when Stephens sent a glancing header wide of keeper Paul Harrison from a Davies cross after 75 minutes.

After that, it was the Saints who went close to extending their margin, with sub Alex Darlington almost adding an audacious third when he spotted Roberts off his line, but his 40-yard lob bounced in front of the unguarded net and over the bar.

## Stunning Rhyn fightback

A SECOND half fightback saw Weston Rhyn stay hard on the heels of the early leaders in the County League division one with a 3-2 home success over Cleef Hill.

Down to 10-men and trailing 2-0, prospects of getting anything from the game looked bleak.

But they roared back, with Paul Kilvert latching onto a clearance from visiting keeper Nigel Percival to plant a 30-yard effort into the net.

Spurred by the reply, Richard Morris levelled from the penalty spot after Mark Lunt had been fouled and captain Lunt then struck a late winner after being put through by veteran Jason Leightwood.

It was a tremendous fightback after cen-

tre forward Ryan Leightwood had been sent off early in the first half for violent conduct.

Rhyn head to Hopesgate this weekend.

Ellesmere Rangers reserves hope to get back on track in the County League premier division on Saturday when they journey to rock-bottom Dawley Villa.

Rangers find themselves 10th after last week's 2-1 loss at Newport.

Down to just 12 players last, Rangers could take heart from the performance of their young side. They took the lead through Tom Johnson, but lost keeper Lee Davies on 25 minutes with a knee injury.

Boss Dan Stevens, the one sub, came off the bench to take over between the posts but was beaten by two Town goals.

### PLACINGS

#### Midland Alliance

| P                  | W | D | L | GD | Pts |
|--------------------|---|---|---|----|-----|
| Loughborough Uni.  | 6 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 19  |
| Westfields         | 7 | 5 | 2 | 0  | 15  |
| Gosley             | 7 | 5 | 2 | 4  | 15  |
| Kirby Muxoe        | 7 | 4 | 2 | 1  | 14  |
| Twidale            | 7 | 4 | 2 | 1  | 14  |
| Colsham Town       | 7 | 4 | 2 | 1  | 14  |
| Coventry Sphinx    | 7 | 4 | 2 | 1  | 13  |
| Causeway Utd       | 6 | 3 | 3 | 0  | 12  |
| Roozema            | 7 | 3 | 3 | 1  | 12  |
| Red Star Johns     | 6 | 4 | 4 | 4  | 12  |
| Heath Hayes        | 6 | 3 | 2 | 1  | 11  |
| Tipton Town        | 7 | 1 | 2 | 4  | 11  |
| Bridgworth Town    | 7 | 2 | 2 | 3  | 8   |
| Ellesmere Rangers  | 7 | 2 | 2 | 3  | 8   |
| Stafford Town      | 7 | 2 | 4 | 0  | 7   |
| Blythe St Michaels | 6 | 2 | 3 | 1  | 7   |
| Durkirk            | 7 | 2 | 1 | 4  | 7   |
| Higgleton          | 7 | 2 | 1 | 4  | 7   |
| Willenhall Town    | 7 | 1 | 5 | 11 | 4   |
| Atherstone Town    | 7 | 1 | 5 | 12 | 4   |
| Sturley            | 7 | 1 | 5 | 12 | 4   |
| Avechurch          | 6 | 0 | 5 | 11 | 1   |

#### West Midland League

| P                  | W | D | L | GD | Pts |
|--------------------|---|---|---|----|-----|
| Penkridge Town     | 3 | 3 | 0 | 6  | 9   |
| Haughmond          | 4 | 2 | 2 | 0  | 8   |
| Riverstone         | 4 | 2 | 1 | 3  | 7   |
| Hereford Lads Club | 3 | 2 | 0 | 1  | 6   |
| Mahal              | 3 | 2 | 0 | 1  | 6   |
| Red Star Alma      | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0  | 6   |
| Team Dudley        | 4 | 2 | 0 | 2  | 6   |
| Wton Spring C R    | 4 | 1 | 2 | 2  | 4   |
| St Martins         | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3  | 4   |
| E'shall Park Farm  | 3 | 1 | 2 | 3  | 4   |
| Malvern Town Res.  | 4 | 1 | 0 | 3  | 3   |
| Skid Hunter        | 3 | 1 | 0 | 3  | 3   |
| Wrens Nest         | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1  | 1   |
| Tenbury United     | 3 | 0 | 3 | 4  | 0   |

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#### County League

| P               | W | D | L | GD | Pts |
|-----------------|---|---|---|----|-----|
| FC Hodnet       | 4 | 3 | 1 | 0  | 13  |
| Ketley Bank Utd | 3 | 3 | 0 | 7  | 9   |
| Newport Town FC | 4 | 3 | 0 | 1  | 9   |
| Morda United    | 4 | 2 | 0 | 4  | 8   |
| Telford Juniors | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0  | 7   |
| Ludlow Town FC  | 4 | 2 | 1 | 1  | 7   |
| Church Stratton | 4 | 1 | 2 | 4  | 7   |
| Shinall United  | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3  | 4   |
| Impact Utd      | 4 | 1 | 2 | 1  | 4   |
| Wellington Arms | 4 | 1 | 2 | 4  | 4   |
| Ellesmere Res   | 3 | 1 | 0 | 2  | 3   |
| Whitchurch Alp  | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1  | 1   |
| Brosely Juniors | 1 | 0 | 1 | 3  | 0   |
| Dawley Villa FC | 3 | 0 | 3 | 6  | 0   |

#### DIVISION ONE

| P                 | W | D | L | GD | Pts |
|-------------------|---|---|---|----|-----|
| Oswestry Lions    | 4 | 3 | 0 | 12 | 10  |
| Oakengates Ath    | 3 | 3 | 0 | 15 | 9   |
| Rock Rovers FC    | 3 | 3 | 0 | 15 | 9   |
| Herwood Utd       | 4 | 3 | 0 | 15 | 9   |
| Weston Rhyn       | 4 | 2 | 0 | 11 | 7   |
| Allicott          | 3 | 2 | 0 | 11 | 7   |
| Ludlow Tn Res     | 4 | 2 | 0 | 9  | 6   |
| Wrexeter Rovers   | 3 | 2 | 1 | 6  | 4   |
| Brown Cele        | 3 | 1 | 1 | 7  | 4   |
| Prestatyn         | 4 | 1 | 1 | 7  | 4   |
| Hopesgate Utd     | 3 | 1 | 2 | 4  | 3   |
| Wrock Wood Jins   | 4 | 1 | 3 | 3  | 3   |
| Shawbury Utd Res  | 3 | 1 | 0 | 3  | 1   |
| Bishops Castle Tn | 3 | 0 | 2 | 4  | 1   |
| Meole Brace       | 3 | 0 | 3 | 5  | 1   |
| Cleef Hill        | 3 | 0 | 3 | 6  | 0   |

#### Huws Gray Alliance

| P                 | W | D | L | GD | Pts |
|-------------------|---|---|---|----|-----|
| Cefn Druids       | 4 | 4 | 0 | 15 | 12  |
| Rhyn              | 3 | 3 | 0 | 10 | 9   |
| G Connaugh Quay   | 4 | 3 | 1 | 6  | 9   |
| Conwy United      | 4 | 3 | 1 | 6  | 9   |
| Porthmadog        | 4 | 2 | 0 | 14 | 8   |
| Pentymnoch        | 4 | 2 | 1 | 11 | 7   |
| Ruthin Town       | 4 | 2 | 1 | 5  | 7   |
| Flint Town United | 4 | 2 | 1 | 6  | 7   |
| Rhos Aelwyd       | 4 | 1 | 3 | 3  | 3   |
| Llanfyllin        | 3 | 2 | 3 | 13 | 3   |
| Caersws           | 4 | 1 | 3 | 9  | 3   |
| Llanidloes        | 4 | 0 | 2 | 3  | 2   |
| Llanidloes        | 4 | 0 | 2 | 3  | 2   |
| Guilsfield        | 4 | 0 | 4 | 9  | 1   |
| Pentwyn           | 4 | 0 | 4 | 16 | 0   |

#### Spar Mid Wales League

## Spar Mid Wales League

Division one: Berriew 1, Llanidloes 3; Bow Street 1, Tywyn Brynchrug 2.

Division two: Aberdylf 5, Abermule 2; Bont 1, Llanfair Utd 3; Lladrindod Wells 2, Aberaeron 0; Llanfyllin 3, Presteigne 3; Tregaron 4, Machynlleth 2.

### DIVISION 1

#### DIVISION 1

| P             | W | D | L | GD | Pts |
|---------------|---|---|---|----|-----|
| Llanelloes    | 3 | 3 | 0 | 15 | 9   |
| Rhydydd       | 3 | 3 | 0 | 10 | 9   |
| Newbridge     | 4 | 2 | 1 | 6  | 7   |
| Montgomery    | 2 | 2 | 0 | 12 | 6   |
| Dolgellau     | 3 | 2 | 1 | 6  | 6   |
| Twynn/Brynnyr | 3 | 2 | 1 | 5  | 6   |
| Berriew       | 3 | 1 | 4 | 4  | 4   |
| Buth Wella    | 3 | 1 | 4 | 4  | 4   |
| Waterloo      | 3 | 1 | 3 | 3  | 3   |
| Dyffryn Banw  | 4 | 1 | 3 | 24 | 3   |
| Doel Valley   | 3 | 1 | 3 | 1  | 1   |
| Llanfyllin    | 3 | 0 | 4 | 8  | 1   |
| Bont Street   | 2 | 0 | 4 | 8  | 0   |
| Welshpool     | 2 | 0 | 2 | 5  | 0   |
| Aber Utd      | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 0   |

#### DIVISION 2



## PLACINGS

## Oswestry League

Division one: Corwen A 6 (148), Chirk AAA 4 (131), Criffins A 9 (156), Flexys A 1 (95), Llanymynech A 6 (153), Johnston A 4 (129), Ceiriog Valley A 7 (152), Llanrhadr A 3 (131), Church A 9 (160), Llanrhaeadr A 1 (128), Overton A 8 (162), Whittington A 2 (119).

Division two: Wylfryn A 7 (155), Church B 3 (120), Llanyngog A 8 (162), Criffins B 2 (126), Johnston B 9 (157), Cynwyd A 1 (97), Ye Olde Crofte A 2 (129), George 7 (140), Chirk AAA B 3 (123), Ruabon A 7 (154), Johnston C 5 (152), Black Lion 5 (152).

Division three: Llanfyllin A 9 (159), Llanfyllin B 2 (118), Flexys B 8 (143), Llanymynech B 2 (163), Cynwyd B 2 (153), Overton B 8 (165), Llanrhaeadr B 2 (153), Kynaston A 5 (136), Royston A 9 (166), Whittington C 1 (79).

Division four: Ceiriog Valley C 7 (144), Church D 3 (124), Fox Lane 7 (149), Gornalton C 3 (137), Whittington E 8 (151), Criffins C 2 (117), Weston Rhyn B 8 (141), Johnston D 4 (137), Church C 9 (159), Llanrhaeadr C 1 (100), Llanyngog C 7 (153), Royston B 3 (102).

Division five: Chirk AAA C 2 (152), Cynwyd B 2 (112), Whittington D 1 (31), Ellesmere B 8 (149), Weston Rhyn D 7 (147), Johnston E 3 (114), Llanyngog B 2 (109), Overton C 8 (159), Llanrhaeadr D 2 (128), Ye Olde Crofte B 8 (157).

Division six: Johnston F 7 (135), Church E 3 (100), Overton D 8 (161), Llanrhaeadr E 2 (118), Llanfyllin B 9 (159), Weston Rhyn E 1 (82).

## DIVISION 1

|                  | P  | W  | L  | Agg  | Pts |
|------------------|----|----|----|------|-----|
| Chirk AAA A      | 20 | 15 | 4  | +596 | 138 |
| Johnston A       | 20 | 12 | 7  | +310 | 122 |
| Criffins A       | 20 | 13 | 7  | +304 | 122 |
| Whittington A    | 20 | 12 | 8  | +169 | 113 |
| Church A         | 20 | 12 | 8  | +72  | 110 |
| Ceiriog Valley A | 20 | 12 | 8  | +112 | 109 |
| Corwen A         | 20 | 10 | 10 | +26  | 100 |
| Llangollen A     | 20 | 9  | 11 | -130 | 90  |
| Overton A        | 20 | 7  | 12 | -141 | 89  |
| Llanymynech A    | 20 | 6  | 13 | -392 | 71  |
| Flexys A         | 20 | 5  | 14 | -407 | 70  |
| Llanrhaeadr A    | 20 | 4  | 15 | -451 | 65  |

## DIVISION 2

|               | P  | W  | L  | Agg  | Pts |
|---------------|----|----|----|------|-----|
| Ruabon A      | 20 | 13 | 6  | +407 | 128 |
| Church B      | 20 | 11 | 8  | +209 | 115 |
| Johnston B    | 20 | 12 | 8  | +100 | 111 |
| Cynwyd A      | 20 | 10 | 8  | +140 | 110 |
| Llanyngog A   | 20 | 11 | 8  | +101 | 106 |
| George 7      | 20 | 11 | 8  | +42  | 105 |
| Black Lion    | 20 | 10 | 8  | +83  | 104 |
| Weston Rhyn A | 20 | 8  | 11 | -61  | 86  |
| Overton B     | 20 | 8  | 10 | -43  | 94  |
| Criffins B    | 20 | 10 | 10 | -159 | 92  |
| Llanrhaeadr B | 20 | 9  | 13 | -215 | 83  |
| Chirk AAA B   | 20 | 2  | 18 | -492 | 56  |

## DIVISION 3

|                    | P  | W  | L  | Agg  | Pts |
|--------------------|----|----|----|------|-----|
| Overton B          | 20 | 15 | 5  | +469 | 136 |
| Whittington B      | 20 | 14 | 5  | +546 | 135 |
| Plas Kynaston A    | 20 | 12 | 5  | +487 | 127 |
| Weston Rhyn C      | 20 | 12 | 7  | +149 | 111 |
| Ceiriog Valley B20 | 11 | 9  | 1  | +147 | 106 |
| Royston A          | 20 | 9  | 10 | -6   | 97  |
| Flexsys B          | 20 | 9  | 11 | -30  | 96  |
| Llangollen B       | 20 | 8  | 11 | -13  | 95  |
| Llanfyllin A       | 20 | 8  | 11 | -148 | 89  |
| Llanrhaeadr B      | 20 | 6  | 14 | -403 | 74  |
| Whittington C      | 20 | 8  | 12 | -495 | 73  |
| Llanymynech B      | 20 | 4  | 16 | -683 | 61  |

## DIVISION 4

|                  | P  | W  | L  | Agg  | Pts |
|------------------|----|----|----|------|-----|
| Johnston D       | 20 | 12 | 7  | +282 | 119 |
| Whittington E    | 20 | 11 | 8  | +179 | 114 |
| Fox Lane         | 20 | 12 | 8  | +194 | 111 |
| Church D         | 20 | 12 | 8  | +175 | 111 |
| Weston Rhyn B    | 20 | 10 | 10 | -42  | 98  |
| Llanyngog C      | 20 | 10 | 10 | -18  | 98  |
| Church D         | 20 | 8  | 12 | -58  | 95  |
| Llanrhaeadr C    | 20 | 10 | 10 | -158 | 95  |
| Criffins C       | 20 | 9  | 11 | -171 | 92  |
| Corwen B         | 20 | 8  | 12 | -148 | 91  |
| Royston B        | 20 | 8  | 11 | -207 | 88  |
| Ceiriog Valley C | 20 | 9  | 11 | -144 | 86  |

## DIVISION 5

|                  | P  | W  | L  | Agg  | Pts |
|------------------|----|----|----|------|-----|
| Ellesmere A      | 18 | 16 | 2  | +701 | 138 |
| Ye Olde Crofte A | 18 | 13 | 5  | +441 | 118 |
| Weston Rhyn D    | 18 | 10 | 8  | +169 | 101 |
| Weston Rhyn D    | 18 | 10 | 7  | +177 | 97  |
| Church E         | 18 | 8  | 9  | -11  | 89  |
| Chirk AAA C      | 18 | 8  | 9  | -139 | 78  |
| Johnston E       | 18 | 7  | 9  | -165 | 80  |
| Plas Kynaston B  | 18 | 6  | 11 | -215 | 77  |
| Cynwyd B         | 18 | 6  | 10 | -139 | 76  |
| Llanyngog B      | 18 | 5  | 12 | -451 | 70  |
| Llanrhaeadr D    | 18 | 6  | 12 | -358 | 66  |

## DIVISION 6

|                  | P  | W  | L  | Agg   | Pts |
|------------------|----|----|----|-------|-----|
| Ellesmere A      | 14 | 14 | 0  | +1095 | 126 |
| Ye Olde Crofte B | 14 | 12 | 2  | +701  | 118 |
| Llanfyllin B     | 14 | 9  | 5  | +161  | 79  |
| Church F         | 14 | 8  | 6  | +5    | 71  |
| Johnston F       | 14 | 7  | 7  | -129  | 78  |
| Weston Rhyn E    | 14 | 5  | 9  | -180  | 65  |
| Overton D        | 14 | 5  | 7  | -234  | 63  |
| Weston Rhyn E    | 14 | 4  | 10 | -331  | 46  |
| Llanrhaeadr E    | 14 | 1  | 13 | -635  | 37  |

## The crucial final week fixtures

## OSWESTRY LEAGUE

## Tuesday

Division one: Church A v Chirk AAA A, Llanymynech A v Flexys A, Corwen A v Johnston A, Criffins A v Llanrhaeadr A, Ceiriog Valley A v Overton A, Llanfyllin A v Whittington A.

Division two: Johnston B v Church B, Weston Rhyn B v Criffins B, Ye Olde Crofte A v Cynwyd A, Chirk AAA B v George 7.

Division three: Whittington B v Overton B.

Wednesday

Division two: Johnston C v Llanyngog A, Black Lion v Ruabon A.

Division three: Royston A v Ceiriog Valley B, Plas Kynaston A v Flexys B, Llanfyllin A v Llanymynech B, Llanrhaeadr B v Weston Rhyn C, Llangollen B v Whittington C.

Division four: Fox Lane v Church D, Criffins C v Corwen B, Ceiriog Valley C v Johnston D, Whittington E v Llanyngog C, Weston Rhyn B v Llanrhaeadr C, Church C v Royston B.

Thursday

Division five: Llanrhaeadr D v Cynwyd B, Weston Rhyn D v Ellesmere B, Plas Kynaston B v Johnston E, Chirk AAA C v Llanyngog B, Whittington D v Overton C.

Division six: Church E v Llanfyllin B, Ellesmere A v Weston Rhyn E, Overton D v Whittington F.

## Friday

## Saturday

## Sunday

## Monday

## Tuesday

## Wednesday

## Thursday

## Friday

## Saturday

## Sunday

## Monday

## Tuesday

## Wednesday

## Thursday

## Friday

## Saturday

## Sunday

## Monday

## Tuesday

## Wednesday

## Thursday

## Ifton out to put final nail in title coffin

IFTON go into tomorrow night's home clash with Chester Road knowing that defeat for their visitors would almost certainly spell the end of their title quest in the Purvows Shropshire Premier Bowls League.

The Roaders are hanging on to the coat-tails of leaders Newport, but need a good haul of points in their trip to St Martins to keep alive their hopes.

But Ifton skipper Steve Robinson believes his side's next opponents

are already out of the championship picture.

"I think the title is done and dusted as Newport have got a good run in," said Ifton skipper Steve Robinson.

"We always have interesting games with Chester Road. There is a lot of banter as I've got some good friends in their team, and tomorrow there is going to be more pressure on them than us."

Having lost 11-3 (63 shots) at Bowring last Friday, Ifton will be

keen to bounce back after slipping to eighth in the table.

Class act Ricky Jones returns to boost their cause.

"We were down to the bare bones last week with people away and working, so in the circumstances we did as well as could be expected," added Robinson.

"We would have liked to have done better, and it would have been interesting to see how we would have done had we had a full strength side."

And Robinson also voiced his frustration at having to play fixtures over the holiday weekend.

"Personally, I think it is stupid having games on the Bank Holiday weekend," he added.

The best game of the night saw Brian Hayes come back from trailing 16-6 against county ace Rich Lawson and run out an excellent 21-19 victor.

Craig Griffiths was a 21-13 winner, while Carl Jones edged a close encounter to 20.

| SHROPSHIRE PREMIER LEAGUE BOWLS TABLE |    |    |    |             |
|---------------------------------------|----|----|----|-------------|
|                                       | P  | W  | L  | GW Agg Pts  |
| Newport                               | 23 | 17 | 5  | 154 972 219 |
| Castelfields                          | 23 | 16 | 7  | 178 816 210 |
| Chester Road                          | 22 | 16 | 6  | 170 729 202 |
| St Georges                            | 22 | 15 | 7  | 155 594 185 |
| Meole Brace                           | 23 | 14 | 7  | 155 394 185 |
| Wrock Wood                            | 23 | 14 | 9  | 153 262 181 |
| Sir John Bayley                       | 23 | 11 | 11 | 136 133 159 |
| Ifton                                 | 23 | 9  | 14 | 137-162 137 |
| Bowring                               | 23 | 12 | 11 | 119-194 143 |
| Childs Ercall                         | 23 | 9  | 14 | 119-442 137 |
| Ford                                  | 23 | 7  | 16 | 117-344 131 |
| Archfield Wron.                       | 23 | 7  | 16 | 108-546 123 |
| Wem USC                               | 23 | 7  | 16 | 98-411 110  |
| Bylet                                 | 23 | 5  | 18 | 90-1005 100 |

Results: Bowring 11 Ifton 3, Castelfields 12 Wem USC 2, Childs Ercall 6 AWC 8, Ford 6 Newport 8, Sir John Bayley 13 Bylet 1, Craig Owen 21-17, Wrockwood Wood 7 Meole Brace 7.

Chester Road v St Georges - match postponed due to a waterlogged green.

## PLACINGS

## Tanners Claret Shropshire League

Division one: Crescent 7 (216), Battelfield 7 (213), Burway 10 (236), Ford 4 (172), Ponbury 5 (204), Hadenham 10 (236), Ludlow Castle 5 (212), Ludlow Castle 5 (212), Prince Hotel 9 (213), Union 10 (227), Elephant & Castle 4 (188), Whittington 5 (212).

Division two: Wem USC 2 (233), Bishop's Castle 12 (245), Bricklayers 9 (231), Church 5 (204), Greenfields 10 (236), Corbet Arms 4 (188), Whittington 5 (212).

Division three: Bishop's Castle 12 (245), Brackley 9 (231), Church 5 (204), Greenfields 10 (236), Corbet Arms 4 (188), Whittington 5 (212).

Division four: Bickton Valley 6 (221), Baschurch 8 (213), New Hanwood 9 (229), Minsterley 5 (188), Framell 11 (228), Oxon Valley 3 (190), Monkmore 5 (194), Preston Brookhurst 9 (215), Dorrington 10 (233), Worthen & Brockton 4 (159).

## DIVISION 1

|               | P  | W  | L  | GW Agg Pts  |
|---------------|----|----|----|-------------|
| Burway        | 21 | 15 | 6  | 158-920 188 |
| Harwood       | 21 | 14 | 7  | 158-681 186 |
| Castelfields  | 20 | 16 | 4  | 145-462 177 |
| Battelfield   | 20 | 13 | 7  | 136-457 158 |
| Telepost      | 20 | 10 | 10 | 128-80 148  |
| Prince Hotel  | 20 | 11 | 9  | 129-139     |
| George 7      | 20 | 10 | 10 | 117-97 138  |
| Ludlow Castle | 20 | 9  | 11 | 136-135     |
| Reman         | 20 | 8  | 11 | 137-129     |
| Ponbury       | 20 | 8  | 12 | 108-168 125 |
| Ford          | 20 | 8  | 10 | 102-302 119 |
| Crescent      | 21 | 5  | 9  | 99-494 110  |
| Wem BC        | 21 | 5  | 8  | 87-817 87   |

## DIVISION 2

|                   | P  | W  | L  | GW Agg Pts  |
|-------------------|----|----|----|-------------|
| Crown Arms        | 19 | 13 | 6  | 145-457 171 |
| Meole Brace       | 19 | 11 | 8  | 130-396 152 |
| Bricklayers       | 19 | 10 | 9  | 125-189 145 |
| Union             | 19 | 10 | 9  | 124-292 144 |
| POWBC             | 19 | 10 | 9  | 123-231 143 |
| Oxon Valley       | 19 | 10 | 9  | 122-198 142 |
| Whittington       | 19 | 11 | 7  | 117-152 138 |
| Bishop's Castle   | 19 | 11 | 7  | 117-497 139 |
| Corbet Arms       | 19 | 11 | 8  | 111-82 131  |
| Elephant & Castle | 19 | 11 | 8  | 112-81 130  |
| Church Club       | 19 | 9  | 10 | 108-56 126  |
| Wem USC           | 19 | 9  | 10 | 108-56 126  |

## DIVISION 3

|                    | P  | W  | L  | GW Agg Pts  |
|--------------------|----|----|----|-------------|
| OSBC               | 18 | 15 | 3  | 132-493 162 |
| Frankwell          | 18 | 13 | 5  | 141-507 168 |
| Preston Brookhurst | 18 | 12 | 6  | 124-834 166 |
| Bickton            | 19 | 9  | 10 | 126-422 144 |
| Reman Services     | 18 | 11 | 7  | 120-251 142 |
| Hadnall            | 18 | 10 | 8  | 114-531 141 |
| Bayston Hill       | 17 | 10 | 7  | 110-478 130 |
| Royston            | 17 | 10 | 7  | 109-138 126 |
| Meole Village      | 18 | 8  | 10 | 108-168 125 |
| Weston Rhyn        | 19 | 9  | 10 | 207-118     |
| Bagley             | 18 | 7  | 9  | 99-150 113  |
| Sevenside St Jul   | 18 | 6  | 10 | 90-370 102  |
| Greenfields Social | 19 | 6  | 10 | 90-330 102  |

## DIVISION 4

|                    | P  | W  | L  | GW Agg Pts  |
|--------------------|----|----|----|-------------|
| Prince Social      | 18 | 13 | 5  | 145-793 172 |
| Frankwell          | 18 | 13 | 5  | 141-507 168 |
| Preston Brookhurst | 18 | 12 | 6  | 124-834 166 |
| Dorrington         | 19 | 13 | 6  | 124-222 150 |
| Oxon Valley        | 19 | 12 | 7  | 124-244 148 |
| Monkmore           | 19 | 12 | 7  | 123-231 145 |
| St Oswalds         | 18 | 12 | 6  | 122-387 142 |
| Minsterley         | 19 | 11 | 8  | 110-480 142 |
| Baschurch          | 19 | 11 | 8  | 112-222 141 |
| Worthen & Brockton | 19 | 4  | 15 | 85-838 63   |
| New Hanwood        | 19 | 3  | 16 | 88-744 74   |
| Bickton Valley     | 19 | 3  | 16 | 88-744 74   |

## DIVISION 5

|               | P  | W  | L  | GW Agg Pts  |
|---------------|----|----|----|-------------|
| Chirk AAA     | 17 | 14 | 3  | 141-507 168 |
| Overton A     | 17 | 12 | 5  | 141-507 168 |
| Llanyngog A   | 16 | 11 | 5  | 141-507 168 |
| Llanyngog B   | 17 | 7  | 10 | 113-71      |
| Royston       | 17 | 7  | 10 | 113-71      |
| Weston Rhyn B | 17 | 6  | 11 | 124-66      |
| Llanfyllin    | 17 | 6  | 11 | 124-66      |
| Llanrhaeadr   | 17 | 6  | 11 | 124-66      |

## DIVISION 6

|               | P  | W  | L  | GW Agg Pts  |
|---------------|----|----|----|-------------|
| Weston Rhyn A | 17 | 14 | 3  | 141-507 168 |
| Chirk AAA     | 17 | 13 | 4  | 141-507 168 |
| Overton A     | 17 | 12 | 5  | 141-507 168 |
| Llanyngog A   | 16 | 11 | 5  | 141-507 168 |
| Llanyngog B   | 17 | 7  | 10 | 113-71      |
| Royston       | 17 | 7  | 10 | 1           |



## Winning return for delighted St Martins

BACK-from-the-brink St Martins celebrated a winning start to their delayed West Midlands League campaign.

The Border outfit made light work of securing a 2-0 victory over Ettingshall Park Farm in division two, with club spokesman Derek Stokes admitting: "We could have had six."

It was a relief just to be playing at all for the Saints, who were on the verge of folding earlier in the month.

Understanding league officials gave them three weeks to try and find a solution – and new managers and players have since been brought on board.

One of the new faces – midfielder Tom Jones – scored their first goal of the season, combining with Josh Sumner before firing in on the stroke of half-time at their new base of The Venue in Oswestry.

St Martins could have been out of sight in the second half, with 17-year-old striker Matthew Tipper-Egerton twice denied by Ettingshall keeper Aaron Morris.

But they finally got the goal their superiority warranted when Christian McGivern curled a last minute free-kick into the top corner.

"It was a deserved 2-0 win and it could have been six," said Stokes. "There were some excellent performances throughout the side."

"The team spirit was excellent and everyone enjoyed the game, which bodes well for the future."

"Our managers (Paul Huggins and Tim Allen) are still looking to add to the squad and we have more players waiting to register when international clearance can be obtained."

## Snocked Rangers in search for new blood

THE search for new blood is on at Ellesmere Rangers.

The Midland Alliance have suffered a testing fortnight with the high of a 3-2 home victory over Willenhall providing scant consolation for a hat-trick of setbacks.

It started with a 6-0 FA Cup hammering at Bridgnorth and, while the performance on Saturday's 2-0 reverse at fancied Westfields provided some encouragement, the problems stacked up with Monday's shock 4-1 home demolition by Tipton.

Availability has proved a major problem with joint boss Matt Burton the only sub on Saturday, while under 18s were called up to supplement the nine senior players who lined up on Monday.

"It's not long ago that we beat Rocester 3-0 with a really complete performance in the second game of the season," said Lee Mills, who shares the managerial duties with Burton.

"But the extremes between that and Monday's performance are far too big - there is too much inconsistency."

"After Monday, I had a heart-to-heart with a lot of the lads who were part of the promotion team and got some good feedback from them."

"But new blood coming in might give the whole squad a boost and that could be the order of the day."

Ian Rowlands was the scorer in Monday's defeat but Rangers were four down by the time he found the net.



The Elite squad show off their trophies. From left: Erik Nodland (coach) Joe Rice, Irran Lane, Rich Cosgrove, Dann Parry, Steve Andrews and Gareth Burns

# Young star Tomos celebrates sensational hat-trick of wins

**BORDER** cycling star Tomos Owen is celebrating a unique treble after a stunning three weeks on the track and road.

The 12-year-old who lives in Llanyrnnech, captured the under-12 omnium title in the National Championships at the Manchester Velodrome before repeating the trick in the National Series final seven days later.

And still the Llanyllin High School pupil wasn't finished as he wrapped up victory on the road in the national circuit series with victory in the final race held just outside Cardiff on Sunday.

Unsurprisingly the Mid Shropshire Wheelers youngster was delighted with his performance.

"It's been really good," he said. "I was expected to win the national championships because I won it last year when I was at the bottom of the age group and people were saying I was going to win it so I was pleased I did."

"I wasn't really expecting to win the series though. You have to qualify for that over the year and there is a lot of competition."

"I was level with the runner-up (Fred Wright) going into the last event but I managed to win it and he only came third so I won overall."

At junior level the Omnium features a sprint race, a 1,500m individual pursuit and a 500m time trial, with the event part of the programme for the London 2012 games where it is contested over five disciplines.

**Brilliant**

Away from the track, Owen's form showed no signs of slowing down as he ended his road season in fine fashion with a win in the final round of the Circuit Series to go with his overall victory.

He added: "I had already won the series before the last event so I didn't have to go but I did and I managed to win so that was brilliant."

There is eight races across the country and there is a lot of travelling so it was good to win."

Owen will be competing at under-14 level next season and will also be under the banner of a different team as he switches to Brooks' Cycles, based in Welshpool.

"I'm moving because I am Welsh and if I can compete under Welsh Cycling it will make it easier to get into the Welsh team," said Owen.

Mid Shropshire Wheelers spokesman George Watkins said the club was sad to see Tom go.

"He certainly went out on a high with us," said Watkins. "He's done really well this year. We wish him all the best for the future."

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## Dominant Oswestry fighters prove they really are the Elite

ALL FOUR Team Elite fighters walked away with a winners trophy on Saturday night at the Fight Night Xtreme event in Plas Madoc, near Wrexham.

The event was fought amid a great atmosphere and all the Oswestry-based fighters did exceptionally well against tough opponents.

The four fighters from Team Elite were Irran Lane, Joe Rice, Dann Parry and Steve Andrews.

Irran was first up and he had a tough three rounds but dominated all the way and won a unanimous points victory.

Dann was second into the cage and blasted away at the legs of his opponent in the opening round. It was more of the same in the second round with some vicious knees ending the fight early with a technical knock out.

Next up was Joe. He dominated again with a great ground game and sank a beautiful triangle choke in the second round.

Steve's fight was all over inside a minute. It went to the ground Steve took his back quickly and finished the fight with a rear naked choke.

Rich Cosgrove, head coach at Team Elite, was delighted with his fighter's performances.

He said: "All the fighters showed a lot of dedication in getting ready for their fight."

"They all trained really hard and we made sure that we used the new 24 foot cage installed at the Team Elite club to great effect."

He also thanked his two assistant coaches, Gareth Burns and Erik Nodland.

For more information on the club visit [www.elite-martial-arts.net](http://www.elite-martial-arts.net) or go to Facebook and search under Elite Martial Arts. Alternatively call Rich on 07970 856002.

## Five races sees five different winners

IT WAS an entertaining day of racing on Shropshire Sailing Club as the five races each saw a different winner.

With a decent wind of 12mph gusting 18mph veering between the north and north west, the course, containing twin beats towards the clubhouse shore, made for an entertaining challenge.

With a modest turn-out due to the holiday weekend, the morning long distance race at Whittemere was won by Angus Bartaby by 26 seconds, on adjusted time, after 50 minutes racing.

After lunch the first race, a pursuit, was a close affair between father and daughter Brian and Lottie Rapson. Rapson senior thought he'd done enough in his Laser 2000 to hold off his daughter's Laser, but Lottie managed to eke out half a boat length at the crucial moment.

But the father had his revenge in the next race, turning the tables and taking the handicap race by 20 seconds on adjusted time.

After the break, new member Chris Marsh claimed the pursuit by a few lengths from Brian Rapson, then to round off the day Brian was again second, this time to Tom Endacott.

11.15am Long Distance B Race 4 (handicap): 1. Angus Bartaby; 2. Martin Parry; 3. Steve Parker.

1.15pm Autumn Series Race 1 (pursuit): 1. Lottie Rapson; 2. Brian Rapson; 3. Paul Dutton; 4. Tom Dutton. Top junior, Lottie Rapson.

2pm Autumn Series Race 2 (handicap): 1. Brian Rapson; 2. Lottie Rapson; 3. Paul Dutton; 4. Tom Dutton. Top junior, Lottie Rapson.

3.15pm Autumn Series Race 3 (pursuit): 1. Chris Marsh; 2. Brian Rapson; 3. Tom Endacott; 4. Chris Endacott; 5. Lottie Rapson. Top junior, Tom Endacott.

4pm Autumn Series Race 4 (handicap): 1. Tom Endacott; 2. Brian Rapson; 3. Chris Marsh; 4. Lottie Rapson; 5. Chris Endacott. Top junior, Tom Endacott.

## The latest from all the greens

**LAKESIDE**

Summer League: 1 Mark Haycock (17) 23pts, 2 Jo Dawson (25) 21pts, 3 Mike Evans (23) 21pts.

Gross League 1: Haycock 16pts, 2 Joe Davies 15pts, 3 Doug Anderson 14pts.

Junior Summer League Title: 1 Christa Humphreys (40) 22pts, 2 Bill Reynolds (33) 20pts, 3 Charlie Jones 17pts.

This Sunday see the Junior Cup being contested with entries still being accepted. This will comprise of an 18 hole stroke play medal event, with tee off times running between 10.30am to 11am.

Entries are also now being invited for the Lakeside Ryder Cup (few places still remain) on Saturday, September 17 and the Club Gross and Nett Championship (Reserve list only) on Saturday, September 24.

**LLANYRNNECH**

August/Borderland Rotary Medal, Div 1: 1 Ian Suckle 78-12=60, 2 Paul Clark 75-9=66, 3 Tom 71-5=66.

Div 2: 1 Ross Baven 85-18=67, 2 Frank Morris 86-19=67, 3 Steve Nash 81-13=68.

Div 3: 1 Ray Brown 87-21=66, 2 Bob Ayers 88-23=66, 3 Terry Edwards 90-21=69.

Best Gross/Borderland Rotary Medal Winner – Basil Griffiths.

Bank Holiday Stableford: 1 Roy McMahon 43pts, 2 Val Jones 41, 3 Eugene Duggan 40.

**OSWESTRY**

Family Fourours Medal: 1 Eddie Marks & Rosemary Marks 98-24½ = 73½, 2 John McLean & Pam McLean 99-25½ = 73½, 3 Bill Bowen & Dorothy Bowen 98-21 = 77.

Men's 4BBB Open: 1 Paul Evans & Andy Evans (Clays) 58, 2 A Clements (Gony & S Cucchiaro 60 (Prestatyn), 3D John Evans & Frank Mottram (Oswestry) 61, 4 Paul Clarke & Paul Humphreys (Llanyrnnech) 62, 5 Steve Hughes (Oswestry) & Basil Griffiths 62 (Llanyrnnech)



Talented Llanyrnnech cyclist Tomos Owen in action

## James still improving as Matthews tops standings

DESPITE the threat of rain 26 riders took to the line for the penultimate round of the Stuart Barkley Cycle time trial series.

A rising headwind on the longer outward leg didn't stop several riders recording personal best times.

Improving by eight seconds on his previous course best victory went to Ben Matthews of Fibrax Wrexham. The 17-year-old remains unbeaten on Queens Head-Gob-owen course crossing the line in 22minutes 12seconds.

Second place went to Stephen Hall of Alf Jones Cycles in a time of 23.22. Neil Coles improved his chances of regaining the series silverware finishing third and fastest paragon rider in 23.45.

Fourth place went to Medwyn Jones of Brooks Cycles. Another rider to record a course best was Dylan Jones of Alf Jones Cycles who clocked 24.12 to put him three seconds ahead of Andrew Davies.

Richard Collins of OO Tri rode for the first time this year finishing seventh in 25.52. Robert Rees has trained hard all season and has seen his times improve by more than two minutes since last year as he recorded his best time with 26.03.

Ninth and tenth place were closely contested with Neil Perry recording 26min19 just getting the better of Fibrax's Aaron Squire (26.21).

Two ladies took part with Laura Garry the fastest of the pair finishing in the top half of the field with a time of 26.41 and Claire Barkley riding for the first time clocking 34.06.

It was a good night for the junior riders with all five who took part recording course bests, as well as the Fibrax riders Matthews and Squires both Jimmy Kershaw (26.45) and Alex Durnell (29.23) of Mid Shropshire Wheelers also improved.

The junior who has made the biggest improvement this year is Oswestry's James Birch (30.23) who has knocked over three minutes off his time since his first ride in July.

The final round of this year takes place on Friday with a 7pm start.

Top Ten: 1 B Matthews (Fibrax WRC) 22.12; 2 S Hall (Alf Jones Cycles) 23.22; 3 N Coles (OPCC) 23.45; 4 M Jones (Brooks Cycles) 24.01; 5 D Jones (Alf Jones Cycles) 24.12; 6 A Davies (OPCC) 24.15; 7 R Collins (OO Tri) 25.52; 8 R Rees (OPCC) 26.03; 9 N Perry (OPCC) 26.19; 10 A Squire (Fibrax WRC) 26.21.



Start - Geraint Thomas

## Day of mixed fortunes but Power still pleased

MID Wales racing driver Ben Power enjoyed mixed fortunes in the latest round of the UK Legends Car championship at Oulton Park in Cheshire.

Power, aged 21, from Guilsfield, finished fifth in the opening heat, after a race-long battle which saw the top five finish within half a second.

In race two he fought through from the back of the grid to finish eighth, and was running well in the final until he was tagged by another driver and spun off.

He recovered and was fighting back through the field when the throttle cable snapped.

"It wasn't a textbook day, that's for sure," said the 21-year-old after the meeting.

"It's especially disappointing after our recent successes, but it could have been worse."

The day was indeed worse for team-mate Mark Higgins, the rally champion making a rare appearance in the series.

He suffered engine failure in practice, and after the team worked flat-out to change the engine, there was a problem with the replacement unit after the first race.

Guttercrest Racing is backed by the family-owned aluminium guttering company Guttercrest, based in Oswestry. The team has further support from Cardiff-based PR consultancy Welch Media, as well as Ripa Designs.

The series continues at Mallory Park in Leicestershire on September 11.



Ben Power in action during his eventful weekend.



# SPORT

OSWESTRY Sports Desk 01691 668094

**Bowls**  
Thrilling season  
nears its climax  
**Page 86**



**Cycling**  
Tomos enjoys  
hat-trick of wins  
**Page 87**



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## Boss sure side can rekindle interest

WELSHPOOL Town may have had a tough start to the season, but boss Dave Jones believes that interest is flooding back into the club.

After a couple of dismal seasons that saw back-to-back relegations from the Welsh Premier and Cymru Alliance, the new-look Lilywhites are regrouping in the Spar Mid Wales League division one this term.

And Jones is already delighted at the level of support in the two away games so far, which saw Pool lose 6-0 at on-song Montgomery before earning a Bank Holiday 1-1 draw at Llansantffraid Village.

"In both games, although they were both away from home, I was amazed how much support there was for us, which was great to see," he said.

"We know it's going to take time, but everyone appreciates the support which was a big boost."

"The team may have been thrown together, but the lads are giving it their best, and we're looking to improve game on game and hopefully pick up some good results which in turn will help us attract some new players."

Welshpool head to Rhayader Town on Saturday, their hosts having been relegated from the Cymru Alliance, before making their first home appearance next Wednesday against Llanelloes Town at Maesdyre.

With more local lads and a local management team, Jones is hoping to reignite interest in the club.

"Montgomery was a baptism of fire," added Jones.

"Although we lost 6-0, it was no disgrace against a side who I was told have not lost in 27 games," he said.

"Then we went to Llansantffraid where we played well, particularly in the first half."

"We were under the cosh at the end, but the lads dug in and deserved a point."

"They can take a lot of confidence from the performance and hopefully we will only improve as the season goes on."

**For a full report see the Chronicle's football round up on page 85.**

## Crunch time for Pool in relegation scrap

WELSHPOOL'S cricketers face a crucial few weeks as they battle for survival in the FBC Manby Bowlders Shropshire League division one.

With as many as four teams likely to face the drop in the restructuring of Shropshire cricket, the Maesdyre men have plenty to do to in their last four games to avoid being dragged down.

Despite a winning draw against basement rivals Condover last weekend, Welshpool find themselves fourth from bottom and in the relegation mix. And points promise to be hard-

earned at home to high flying Wroxeter on Saturday, with their visitors firm favourites to land the crown.

"Wroxeter's batting carries them through, while they've also got some tidy bowlers so it will be a tough game but we'll be looking to get a draw out of it," said spokesman Joe Birch.

"We're then targeting Knockin and Lilleshall as games we can win. The table's tight, there's only a few points between us and the sides above us, and we can get up the table."

Pool boosted their cause last week by

picking up 13 points with closely fought winning draw against Condover who made 130-8 in reply to 136-9.

A win would have lifted the Montgomeryshire side up two places, but Birch said: "Overall I think a draw was a fair result."

"The wicket was damp, and we 20 or 30 run short. They had slightly the better of the wicket, but lost three quick wickets."

"Although they were eight down at the end, their last pair batted quite well."



It's green for go as the front-runners in the Ellesmere 10km road race set the pace during the second running of the event on Sunday.

AND they're off – the Ellesmere 10km field set off in the annual race on Sunday.

More than 400 runners took to the roads with Rob Samuel (Eryri Harriers) taking victory in a time of 31minutes 22seconds.

Paul Jones headed the Oswestry Olympian charge with a strong run to finish 11th in 34.28. Ryan Stokes (39.35) and Steve Jones (41.09) also enjoyed strong runs for the host club.

Nick Blake finished in 42.08 for an 86th place finish just ahead of the first Olympian female runner home – Charlotte Jones who crossed the line in 43.11 to finish 100th.

The event concluded the Olympians summer fixture list.

## We have enough strikers – Davies

DIRECTOR of football Mike Davies insists The New Saints still possess enough firepower despite losing striker Chris Sharp this week.

Sharp will move to AFC Telford United for an undisclosed fee subject to international clearance following an offer the Welsh Premier club said they "could not refuse".

The forward's departure follows that of front runner Richie Partridge who, having netted 11 goals last term, was forced to hang up his boots during the summer due to injury.

Between them, the two players have scored 33 times, but Davies says there is no rush to find another forward.

"Obviously, you never stop looking but I've got a lot of confidence in the forwards we have here," he said.

"Nicky Ward has returned to the club, and we've got other good forwards like Matty Williams and Alex Darlington."

"We feel that it is a good move for Chris. It was an offer we could not refuse and it was a win-win situation for both parties."

### Thanks

"We would like to thank Chris for his service to TNS and wish him all the best for the future."

The son of former Everton and Scotland player Graeme Sharp, the 25-year-old joined TNS from Bangor City in January 2010 and scored 22 goals from 31 appearances for the Park Hall outfit.

The Saints now set their sights on a crunch televised Welsh Premier clash at old adversaries Llanelli on Saturday (3.45), the sides having played each other no fewer than seven times last term.

The last match between the two saw TNS prevail in the League Cup final at Aberystwyth, with Scott Ruscoe netting a late winner.

"It's always a difficult fixture for us and is the start of a big seven days with games also coming up against Neath and Bangor City," added Davies.

"Although we've not made a great start by our standards, we have been helped by other results with sides beating each other."

"We're playing well enough, we just need to take our chances."

TNS hope to have winger Chris Williams available following a knee injury.

# OSWESTRY BELIEVE IN PROMOTION BID

OSWESTRY'S promotion destiny is firmly in their own hands after hauling themselves right back into the mix in the Birmingham Cricket League division three over the Bank Holiday weekend.

A winning draw against lowly St Georges and victory at Lichfield two days later has seen the Morda Road dramatically close the gap on the leaders as they head for their final three games that will decide whether they step up to division two next season.

They are now just 13 points behind new leaders Brewwood, six behind Barnard's Green, and five ahead of Tamworth – the only other team in the promotion race – and both Tamworth and Brewwood still have to visit Morda Road.

And it is Tamworth who hit town in the first of those big games on Saturday, with home

skipper Mark Robinson relishing the chance of moving closer to their promotion ambition.

"It's a massive game on Saturday, and if we can beat Tamworth it will put them out of the running as well as being fantastic for us," he said.

"We've played some great cricket over the last five or six weeks and if we keep up those standards then we believe we've got a really good chance of getting promotion which has been our aim right from the start of the season."

by John Bridgwater

"We've also got Brewwood at home and if we can beat them then that might be enough to take us up."

The form of Robbie Clarke, who has made back-to-back half centuries, has seen the 15-year old cement his place in the side.

So the only change from the line-up that defeated Lichfield sees Dean Suter recalled in place of Ian Davies.

It was always felt that two games in three days over the

Bank Holiday would have a big bearing on Oswestry's promotion chances.

And so it proved with the border men notching an emphatic winning draw against rock-bottom St Georges in a rain-affected clash before sweeping aside Lichfield by 48 runs to put themselves right in the hunt.

**For a full report and pictures see the Chronicle's cricket round up on page 84.**



Alex Ramsay receives his Wales Under-18 cap from FAW Councillor Ken Hughes.

## International honours for Ramsay

YOUNG TNS keeper Alex Ramsay received his Wales Under-18 cap during Friday night's Welsh Premier game against Prestatyn at Park Hall.

The 18-year-old, who hails from Llanfyllin, played for the FAW under-

18 semi-professional XI against the Republic of Ireland earlier this month.

A member of the TNS Scholarship Scheme, Ramsay is now a member of the Saints' first-team squad.

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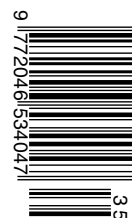
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